

# THE TIMES

Why Iceland is fighting the cod war, page 14

## Impasse over wealth tax as committee fail to agree

The Select Committee on the Wealth Tax have failed to agree on a clear-cut recommendation to the Government. A document published yesterday contains five draft reports which put forward varied suggestions. The confusion has led to increasing doubts on whether a move could be made in the present parliamentary session to introduce the tax.

## Five reports give no clear-cut view

Tim Congdon, Economics Staff  
Amid considerable confusion in the House of Commons Select Committee on the Wealth Tax, the committee failed yesterday to agree on a report. Uncertainty about the timing of the new tax continues, as the committee made no clear-cut recommendation to the Commons or the Government.

Five draft reports are contained in the document published yesterday as *The Report of the Select Committee on the Wealth Tax*. They differ substantially and do not constitute a consensus on which the Government's final wealth tax proposals could be based.

This unprecedented situation has arisen because the chairman, Mr Douglas Jay, Labour MP for Battersea North, was unable to obtain the support of two Labour backbenchers, Mr Jeremy Bray and Mr Colin Ainsworth, for his first draft report. In a crucial vote they went against, with permission, on certain points.

Three other reports, one by Mr John Pardo, the Liberal member of the committee, and one by Mr Jeremy Bray, were opposed. But none was able to command majority support in the committee.

A number of amendments were made to the chairman's draft report, but the amended version was still not accepted by the committee. However, it is possible that the amended version will have the influence on the Government, the Treasury and the Inland Revenue as they consider how far the wealth tax could ultimately take.

The committee's failure to produce a report does not mean that a wealth tax will not be introduced in the 1976 Finance Bill, as originally intended. The Government would still be free to include the tax in the Bill if it wished to do so. But the Government are increasingly being criticised about the likelihood of a move during the current parliamentary session.

Continued on page 17, col 1

## Minister's resignation threat over arms cuts

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

Mr Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence, left MPs in no doubt yesterday of the bitter battle being waged between the Treasury and the Ministry of Defence over further cuts in the Armed Forces.

Opening a Commons debate on the Armed Forces Bill, in the absence of Mr Mason, the Secretary of State, who was in Brussels, Mr Rodgers gave a pledge that he would resign from the Government rather than agree to cuts that undermined the collective security of the West. To that, he said, successive governments had been committed for nearly 30 years through NATO under the treaty signed by Ernest Bevin.

Mr Rodgers' confident tone indicated that Mr Mason, who is said to be insisting on defence cuts in line with those sought in other departments, is not getting everything his own way.

The Minister of State said the present review of defence expenditure was no more than part of the usual annual public expenditure survey, when future programmes were subjected to close scrutiny.

The outcome of this survey is certainly not decided, he said. Questions of judgement arose about the level of defence expenditure consistent with Britain's obligations. There was room for two views or perhaps more.

Mr Rodgers' words did something to reassure Conservatives who were convinced that the Healey axe would leave Britain defenceless.

Mr George Younger, Opposition spokesman on defence, said the Government had done many foolish things but he could not believe it would be so irresponsible as to fly in the face of virtually all responsible opinion throughout the West. The latest round, he said, suggested that the proposed public expenditure cuts would hit defence twice as hard as other departments.

In a powerful condemnation of the proposals he demanded three undertakings: no decision without full prior consultation with our NATO allies; no unilateral action before the talks on mutual balanced force reductions; and in any event cuts not to be below the critical level spelled out in the defence White Paper and said Mr Mason to be the minimum level.

Continued on page 17, col 1

## Beirut hotels go up in smoke as Army takes on leftists

From Paul Martin, Beirut, Dec 10

Across the road from a blackened shell of the Georges Hotel, a leftist militia fired a rocket at the British community club, 300 yards off the seaside promenade. "This is where the army commands have one of their front-line positions," he explained as return fire began to pour in.

Minutes later five rockets struck the Alcazar Hotel, also 30 yards from the sea, where the army had set up snipers at mortar nests. As smoke poured out of several lower floors, the army was forced into temporary retreat. And another Beirut's luxury hotels was going up in smoke.

This district with hotels, restaurants and bars, which attracted international businessmen, gourmets and pleasure-seekers, has become the deadliest battle zone in Beirut. After sweeping down on it three days ago, the leftist Muslims are due to attack the front line which encompasses half the hotel area.

Instead of the Christian Phalangists, whom they ousted from most of the area, they now face the Lebanese Army which has taken over the Phoenicia and Holiday Inn hotels. By moving in between the warring forces yesterday, the Army prevented a certain rout of the besieged Phalangists.

With other foreign journalists I was taken to the front line.

be militiamen from the independent Nasrallah movement which has led the Muslim campaign. At a press conference earlier, Mr Ibrahim Kheilat, the movement's leader, charged that the Army was now fighting alongside the Phalangists.

To reach the front line we drove in a convoy of jeeps and pickups manned with heavy machine-guns and recoilless rifles. As we crossed streets dominated by Phalangist sniper positions we were ordered to duck our heads and the drivers accelerated.

Phoenicia Street, best known in former times for its bars, nightclubs and restaurants, is in Muslim hands. It is alive with militiamen swaggering from one

vacant hotel to another, carrying automatic rifles, rocket launchers and boxes of grenades. During the tour of the area I saw dozens of Palestinian guerrillas who seemed to be the best equipped of the infantrymen.

Until early this morning the leftists had been holding the St Georges Hotel against the determined onslaught from the Lebanese Army which had been ordered to secure the area and save at least the three main hotels—the St Georges, Phoenicia and Holiday Inn—from destruction.

However, as the battle for the St Georges intensified this morning, the hotel received a direct hit and was engulfed in fire, forcing the leftists to leave. With snipers firing and swirling battles in the streets preventing the fire brigade from reaching the scene, the hotel was gutted.

This single event has driven home to many Lebanese the fate that surely awaits their capital should the street war go unchecked. The army now holds the Holiday Inn and the Phoenicia. Both have been hit by rocket and mortar fire. Rooms have been blackened by fire. It would take many months to repair the damage.

Beirut, Dec 10.—Mr Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, said today that the Muslim and Christian militias had agreed to a ceasefire for the fourteenth in 11 weeks.—UPI



The Prince of Wales was installed as a Companion Rat of the Grand Order of Water Rats yesterday, and given binoculars by Sir Billy Butlin (right). Mr Joe Church, King Rat, is in the centre.

## Terrorists hurl food from siege flat as police tighten grip

By Clive Borrell and Stewart Tindler

Police hopes of reestablishing contact with the four gunmen under siege with their hostages, Mr and Mrs John Matthews, in Balcombe Street, St Marylebone, London, were dashed last night when the gang took in coffee and sandwiches dangled before them from a rope from the roof then, after some shouting, defiantly threw them into the street.

The quick rejection of the canisters, although some Valium tablets for Mrs Matthews were accepted, indicates that the gunmen have decided to continue with their hard line.

Earlier the police said that the man known to Scotland Yard by the code name Michael Wilson and the code letter Z, one of the four gunmen who have been holding Mr and Mrs Matthews in their flat since Saturday night, he is wanted in connection with the murder of Mr Ross McWhirter.

Commander Roy Hubershon, head of Scotland Yard's bomb squad, said that evidence obtained during the previous 24 hours had left the bomb squad with little doubt that Mr Wilson and three other gunmen were trapped in the flat last Saturday after a chase through central London.

Yesterday detectives with dogs trained to sniff out explosives searched buildings near the siege flat. They were looking for "bomb factories" or safe houses that they suspect is near by.

Witnesses have told the police that the four gunmen appeared to have an intimate knowledge of the area.

Mr Hubershon said last night that the police believed the men ran into the open doorway of flat 23b by chance. An earlier idea that one of the men had got away was no longer held.

Attempts were made yesterday to secrete listening devices near the room where the couple are being held hostage. During the day barrowloads of green canvas sandbags were moved through the front entrance of the block of flats to protect the policemen inside.

Yesterday also saw the introduction of a different signalling system: the police started to use green and red flags to tell their colleagues when to give cover to people entering and leaving the block. When the red flag was raised the covering party took up position; they retreated when the green one was shown.

The system was devised to ensure that the gunmen could not leave the block, when being told to take up position and try a quick shot at them. Earlier this week the police

## Grave concern in Nato over growing Warsaw Pact strength

From Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, Brussels, Dec 10

Nato ministers expressed "grave concern" today at reports of the relative military strengths of Nato and the Warsaw Pact. The ministers met at the half-yearly meeting of Nato's defence planning committee which ended here today.

The first communiqué noted the "increasing firepower, mobility and armoured strength of Warsaw Pact forces and their formidable capability in such areas as tactical nuclear, chemical and electronic warfare".

The growth and worldwide deployment of the Russian navy had included the introduction into service of large numbers of nuclear-propelled attack and missile-carrying submarines.

Most recently, it all there had been detected a change in emphasis from air defence to offensive operations within the Warsaw Pact air forces, including the introduction of new high performance bombers and tactical aircraft capable of deep penetration.

Improvements in capability, however, have not been one-sided. The communiqué pointed to Nato's own advances in such areas as anti-air capability, air defence and aircraft protection, the modernization and replacement of ships and the procurement of modern aircraft.

The American decision to form two new brigades in Germany, one of them stationed alongside other allied forces in the north, the "increased combat effectiveness" of the German forces and the decision to re-equip and modernize Canadian troops, were also welcomed.

## Grave concern in Nato over growing Warsaw Pact strength

The first part of a military study intended to improve the flexibility of allied forces had been completed and the Ministers agreed that where possible these improvements should be introduced without delay.

They also noted allied military opinion that an airborne early warning and control capability on the lines of the American Avants aircraft was an urgent military requirement. A proposal for the collaborative purchase of Avants, however, at present the subject of a study group in Brussels, will not be decided until the committee's next meeting in the spring.

A report on standardization of allied equipment, a theme which has run throughout recent Nato meetings, referred to "important progress" in halting the proliferation of weapons in Nato. Such progress encompassed efforts to make ammunition, fuel and other materials interchangeable.

By the 1980s, the bulk of Nato artillery guns would "have standardized characteristics" so that the same ammunition would fit everyone's guns. The prospects for standardizing small arms ammunition were "very encouraging".

There was what was described as a serious possibility of standardizing ammunition for tank guns. Main propulsion fuels for allied warships would be completely interchangeable by 1980.

Among the highest priorities were the need for a next-generation over-the-horizon anti-surface ship missile.

Continued on page 17, col 1

## Rape report does not seek to alter Lords ruling

By Our Legal Correspondent

Complainants in rape cases should remain anonymous, and evidence about their previous sexual history should be inadmissible, a report published yesterday proposes. The report by an advisory group of five, including three women, does not suggest changing the law so as to reverse the controversial House of Lords ruling that a man could not be guilty of rape if he genuinely believed that the woman was consenting to intercourse, however unreasonable that belief.

It recommends that there should be at least four women and four men on any jury hearing a rape case.

The report says the Lords' decision had given rise to misunderstandings and misgivings. The most important factor, which had been almost completely overlooked in comment on it, was that for the first time it had been stated, clearly and unambiguously, that recklessness about whether the woman was consenting or not was sufficient guilty intent for a conviction.

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## Bar Council backs lawyers criticized by judge

Our Legal Correspondent

The Bar Council has strongly supported the conduct of counsel in an explosives case who have been criticized by the trial judge for their "mud-slinging" and had their fees cut as a result.

During the 49-day trial at the trial Criminal Court in the trial, Justice Melford Penson attacked the conduct of defence counsel for three of eight defendants for putting allegations that incriminating fingerprints had been used by the police.

The judge suggested that the defence costs would be disallowed. Last night the court taxing master the fees of the three QCs, their juniors and their instructing solicitors by a third, did so after discussion with the judge. Appeals are now being made against the decision.

Sir Peter Rawlinson, QC, chairman of the Bar, issued a statement yesterday on the conclusions of the inquiry into the case carried out by the barristers' Professional Conduct Committee.

"As chairman, and the committee are satisfied that the counsel concerned conducted the defence of the accused in accordance with their duty to the court and the public, and were not guilty of professional misconduct," the statement said.

It was the duty of counsel, the statement said, when defending an accused person on a criminal charge, to present to the court fearlessly and without regard to his personal interests the defence of that accused person. It was not his function to determine the truth or falsity of that defence.

## Inflexible demands by Moluccan terrorists

From Sue Masterman, The Hague, Dec 10

The leaders of the South Moluccan community in the Netherlands declared today that they will call for a referendum on independence only if the Dutch Government guarantees a meeting between their leader and President Suharto of Indonesia. Indonesia has made it clear that this is out of the question.

The Moluccans also insist that the Dutch should change their policy and state that they believe in the justice of the demand for an independent republic of the South Moluccan islands now incorporated in Indonesia.

Should the Dutch fail to agree to these demands, more terrorist activities can be expected.

These conditions were laid down today at a four-hour meeting of the Badan Persatuan, the political council representing 90 per cent of the 33,000 South Moluccans in the Netherlands. They were also announced after the meeting by their self-styled president, Dr Jan Manuhutu, who appears to be taking a more militant line since moderation failed to gain him Dutch support.

The six Moluccan gunmen in the hijacked train near Beilen, who have been holding 30 hostages in an unheated carriage for nine days, passed the time today taking occasional pot shots at birds and wild animals. Contact with the gunmen in the train, and with the other six terrorists who are holding 30 hostages at the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam, has been reduced to a macabre form of room service.

The terrorists ring the authories and order packed lunches or warm meals, which are promptly delivered by the police or Red Cross, to some point nearby, where they are collected by black-masked gunmen.

## Russian arms turning the tide in Angola

Our Africa Correspondent

Large quantities of arms and aid from the Soviet Union and Cuba are swinging the Angola war in favour of the Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) which, after a series of setbacks, is now winning on three fronts. A fear of Soviet presence leading to a signing of Marxist states across Africa, Angola, to Tanzania was expressed yesterday by Mr Vorster, South African Prime Minister.

## Kissinger contempt motion dropped

Our Washington Correspondent

The recommendation to cite Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, for contempt of Congress because he refused to supply documents wanted by the House intelligence committee, has been dropped. Mr Csis Pike, chairman of the committee, said the information had been supplied by members of the White House staff.

## Sakharov message

Our Moscow Correspondent

Mrs Yelena Sakharov yesterday accepted the Nobel peace prize for her husband, Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident Soviet physicist, who was refused a visa for travel to Oslo. In a message read by his wife Dr Sakharov pleaded for a world political amnesty and the release of all prisoners of conscience.

## Hospital disputes

Our Health Correspondent

Members of the Confederation of Health Service Employees, one of the three main national health service unions, have been advised by their leaders not to become involved in the disputes involving junior doctors or consultants.

## Pacifists cleared

Our London Correspondent

Fourteen pacifists were cleared in London of a plot to seduce soldiers from their duty. The trial, at the Central Criminal Court, is estimated to have cost the taxpayer more than £250,000. Senior lawyers said they would be astonished if the Crown proceeded with similar outstanding cases.

## Warning by Bank

Our Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England has warned the Government against stimulating domestic demand before a general upturn in world economy.

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HOME NEWS



A flag being used yesterday to control policemen as they covered a colleague wheeling sandbags towards the London siege flat.

## Jury clears 14 pacifists of plot to seduce soldiers from their duty

By David Leigh

The 14 pacifists being tried at the Central Criminal Court on charges of conspiring to seduce soldiers from their duty were acquitted by a jury yesterday on all counts.

Senior counsel estimate the cost to the taxpayer of the proceedings to have been more than £250,000. Judge McKinnon, QC, agreed, after submissions, to return legal aid contributions taken from some of the defendants and to charge the expenses met by the legal aid fund to central funds.

The trial lasted 51 days. The judge reminded the jury of a public statement made by the British Withdrawal Campaign and added: "You may think, and it is entirely a matter for you, that it is a clear incitement to mutiny."

All the defendants were acquitted on charges of conspiring to seduce soldiers from their duty or allegiance contrary to the Incitement to Disaffection Act, 1934. Charges of having leaflets that were illegal under the Act were also rejected, as was a charge that one pacifist tried to seduce a sailor by talking to him during a train journey.

Two of the 14, who admitted helping soldiers in flight to Sweden by giving them money and accommodation, were fined, after the jury's verdict on the main charges. Gwyneth Williams, aged 34, a social worker in London, was fined £30 on each of two charges under the Army Acts, and John Hyatt £50 on one charge, with three months to pay.

Miss Williams, aged 34, is a social worker for Westminster Council in a deprived area of north Paddington. She has taken part in many pacifist and nuclear disarmament pickets and demonstrations.

She was described by the Crown as a ringleader of the alleged conspiracy. She said she became a pacifist on religious grounds, after reading the New Testament at the age of 16.

The other defendants included Ronald Lee, aged 24, who was brought daily to court from prison. He is serving a sentence of three years for burning down an anti-nuclear laboratory. Mr. Ronald Lee, his father, said his son was hoping to return to social work if he received parole next year.

Albert Beale, aged 27, a former joint editor of *Peace*

*News*, said he planned to go out immediately and distribute copies of the leaflet mainly concerned. "Some information for Discontented Soldiers", at the nearest barracks. The campaign to get into touch with soldiers would continue.

Other prosecutions under the Incitement to Disaffection Act are pending. Charges under the Act require the sanction of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Senior counsel in the conspiracy trial said they would be astonished if the Crown did not abandon the outstanding cases.

The National Council for Civil Liberties and the Poldane Society, of progressive lawyers, called for the 1934 Act to be repealed because of the verdict.

Those acquitted included: Susan Hornsby, aged 27, of Wimbledon; Paul Seed, aged 21, of Luton; Robert Thomas, aged 30, of Cardiff; Michael Westcott, aged 18, of Birmingham; Christopher Roper, aged 37, of Buckhurst Hill, Essex; Richard Walker, aged 21, and Francis Keeley, aged 23, both of Liverpool; Philip Cadbury, aged 20, and Wendy Butlin, aged 46, both of London.

Pacifist "nuisances", page 14

## Pressure on RUC chief constable is denied

From Our Correspondent Belfast

The Government and the Northern Ireland Police Authority yesterday denied that political pressure was being used to force Sir James Flanagan to resign as Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. The suggestion had been made in a Dublin newspaper.

The police authority pointed out that it had the duty by statute to appoint all RUC officers above the rank of chief superintendent. Any outside pressure on its deliberations or decisions would not be countenanced.

It added: "With regard to the present chief constable, the authority has already made known its position. It is that Sir James Flanagan, who on his appointment indicated that his tenure in office should not be spent beyond 1975, agreed to the request of the authority to continue in office until the spring of 1976 to enable a successor to be appointed."

In announcing this at an earlier date, the authority stated that they were grateful to have Sir James's agreement on the matter. "The post of chief constable had been advertised."

Mr. Paddy Devlin, chief whip of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, maintained yesterday that the main reason behind the alleged move to oust Sir James was his opposition to a reported deal between senior government officials and Provisional Sinn Féin.

A senior police official said last night: "There is dissatisfaction and discontent among senior ranks over the way the whole matter of Sir James's position is being handled."

## MPs given guidance about privilege

Our Political Staff

Rejecting a Labour backbencher's complaint of privilege against a newspaper circulating his constituency, the Privileges Committee of the Commons yesterday expressed a general judgment on the controversial subject of privilege.

The judgment comes in the wake of the committee's finding last week that the editor of and contributor to *The Economist* should be excluded from Westminster's precincts for six months for printing details of a draft report from the select committee considering the health tax, on October 11. The Privileges Committee also recommended that a short Bill should be brought in to enable the House to exercise its powers in particular, those powers should not be invoked in respect of statements alleged to be defamatory.

The House had the ultimate right to exercise its powers for the reasonable protection of Parliament.

The Privileges Committee held that the *Liverpool Free Press* article "falls within the category of matters where it is inappropriate for the House to exercise its powers." But the committee had not considered Mr. Ogden's appeal that it should express a judgment on the truth or falsehood of the article, because it was inappropriate for it to do so.

Second Report from the Committee on Privileges, *Complaints concerning an article in the Liverpool Free Press Newspaper*, (Stationery Office, 20p.)

## Union urged to avoid doctors' disputes

By John Roper

The Confederation of Health Service Employees, one of the three big health service unions, has advised its members not to get involved in the consultants' dispute over pay beds or in the junior doctors' action over overtime payments.

The union supports the separation of private practice from the NHS, but Mr. Albert Spanswick, general secretary, said yesterday that their members' jobs and the preservation of the service must come first in the present NHS troubles.

But Mr. Bernard Dix, assistant secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, said its members were continuing to take rigorous action in any hospital where consultants were treating private patients but were limiting their NHS work to emergencies. Services to private patients were being withdrawn.

Mr. Spanswick said he was sure his members would follow the union's advice. It had been sent to the 700 branches last week and there had been no criticism.

He said that after a meeting with Mrs. Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Dr. Owen, Minister of State for Health, on Monday this possibility of the union's taking industrial action over cuts in NHS staff had receded. His union had to explain emphatically to Mrs. Castle a situation of which she did not appear to be aware.

Dr. Owen had agreed to intervene where any authority refused to consult the unions over staff cuts and to examine proposals for more formal machinery, possibly on a regional basis, for redeployment of staff.

Junior hospital doctors meet

department officials yesterday for detailed talks about independent audit of over payments, and will see Castle again today. But it appeared to be little hope either their dispute or the consultants' would be resolved week.

Baby's death: London's Lancashire said yesterday the death of a girl, aged months, who was refused a sign to two hospitals on Tuesday, was the latest in a series of deaths that had been caused by the hospital's refusal to accept the baby, and was attributed to try Hillingdon hospital. But that, too, could help.

We continued to W. Parry, Hospital in Slough, said, "But the baby died on arrival. We are very angry and upset at Hillingdon Hospital, said night that the ambulance had been told to take patients from ambulance on the blue call, which is used in serious through the front door hospital between the 9 am and 9 pm.

Dr. Paul Copeland, of North West Thames Junior doctors, declining to meet without knowing details.

## Gloomy warning on Ireland's economy

From Christopher Walker Dublin

Mr. Cosgrave, the Irish Prime Minister, gave a warning last night on television and radio of the difficulties facing the Irish economy and the urgent need for measures to tackle them.

The broadcast came after the publication this week of a gloomy report on Ireland's economic prospects from the Organization for Economic Co-

operation and Development, and a meeting yesterday between the Government, unions and employers at which tough measures planned for January's Budget were outlined.

Mr. Cosgrave did not refer directly in his speech to the Northern Ireland troubles, but he said that Ireland's security bill would rise this year to a record of almost £125m.

If all existing demands were to be met without additional

taxation international borrowing would have to rise next year from £700m to an unacceptable £1,300m.

Mr. Cosgrave also gave warning of the danger of rising unemployment, which stood at 108,000. He repeated a plea that workers should not press for any further pay rises before the end of next year, apart from the final instalment of the national agreement.

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## TUC chiefs suggest 10-part plan to cut unemployment

By Our Labour Editor

Government measures aimed at reducing the number of workers without jobs, which will be announced early next week, will not lead to "a massive reduction in unemployment", the Chancellor of the Exchequer told TUC leaders yesterday.

After talks lasting just over an hour between the unions and senior Cabinet ministers, Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said he thought Mr. Healey's tendency to accept union measures had been reinforced. The TUC leaders put forward a 10-point programme of economic measures, which they declined to cost.

It included selective import controls on motor cars and components, television tubes, textiles, clothing and footwear; a £200m job-creation programme under the Industry Act; and government help for the construction industry in the field of house-building and repairs.

The union team also argued that the Government should set up an investment reserve scheme, under which firms would be obliged to set aside at least part of their profits for capital investment.

Expressing anxiety about growing redundancies, the TUC leaders called for an extension of the temporary employment subsidy by a doubling of the amount payable from £10 to £20 a week over a year rather than six months.

## Electricity union fights off left's challenge

By Our Labour Editor

Moderates have successfully fought off a strong left-wing challenge for power in the Electricity, Electronic, Telecommunications, and Plumbing Union, assuring a continuation of the anti-communist policies of Mr. Frank Chapple, the union's general secretary.

## Labour plan for agricultural land commission

By Our Political Correspondent

Proposals for the ownership of agricultural land now being considered by Labour Party's home committee, envisage the setting up of an agricultural land mission which would be possible for buying land, in over land offered in the wealth tax, and managing.

A confidential document the hands of most members of the party's national executive committee, the document cannot more immediately to complete nationalization of land, but it emphasizes that the Government cannot delay much longer responding to the pressures.

The plan has been worked out by the agriculture committee of the executive, in consultation with the National Union of Agricultural Allied Workers, and will be before the full executive next year.

It says the state would acquire the freehold of land transferred which would be to tenant farmers. The plan would benefit by having a land capable of maintaining adequate capital equipment.

Large institutions, which chief concerns are to provide a hedge against inflation and obtain tax concessions, have been investing in land driving up its value, and working farmers are finding increasingly difficult to get their holdings, the document says.

Much of the land taken would be in lieu of tax, it is argued, and its acquisition would not therefore deprive Government of revenue, could be spent on other things.

The subcommittee says proposals are not a substitute for the long-term policy of state ownership of all land.

## Miners' claim violates pay restraint policy

By Our Labour Editor

The miners' annual pay claim, submitted two days ago, violates the terms of the TUC-Government wage restraint policy, it was learnt last night.

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers told the National Coal Board that they want £6 a week more on basic rates for all 260,000 men in the industry in defiance of the TUC's ruling that the wage rise norm should be a supplement to earnings that does not count towards higher overtime and other pay.

Mr. Joseph Gormley, the NUM president, is understood to have made clear to the board that he knows the miners' claim cuts across the official policy of the TUC, and he has told Congress House that he will justify his claim to the Government if necessary.

On the surface the gap between the miners' claim and the official interpretation of the wage-restraint policy is small. But in propaganda terms it is critical. Left-wingers on the NUM executive are delighted that the union has put forward a claim that conflicts with the pay policy.

The coal board is concerned at again finding itself in the firing line over wage restraint. Overtime accounts for about a tenth of the industry's wage bill. The miners' claim as it now stands would impose a "quite considerable" increase on the pay bill over and above the cost of meeting the official TUC policy.

The miners' insistence that the £6 should be part of basic rates comes on top of a demand that incremental pay rises allowed to white-collar workers under the White Paper should be set aside and complicated, what was expected to be a simple round of wage bargaining in the industry this winter.

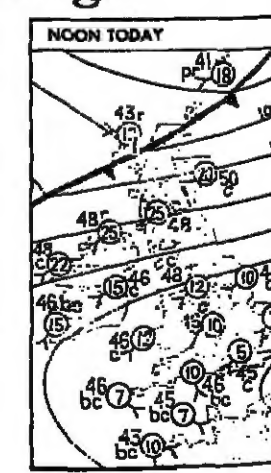
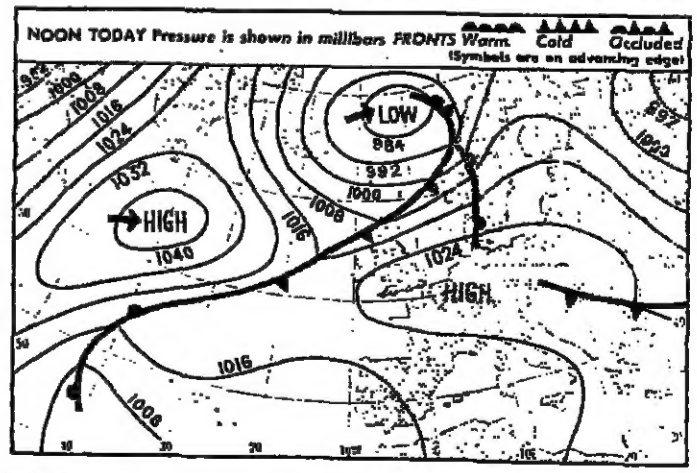
The miners' national executive meets this morning and will hear a report of the opening shots in the pay campaign.

## Japanese fish condemned

Westminster City Council made a successful application at Marylebone Magistrates' Court yesterday for the destruction of 47lb of fugu fish seized at the Kyoto Restaurant, Queensborough Terrace.

A marine biologist said that of the 27 known types of the fish only two were non-toxic. About 100 people a year died from eating the fish in Japan.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 7.56 am Sun sets: 3.52 pm  
Moon sets: 12.16 am 12.15 pm  
Full moon: December 18  
Lighting up: 4.22 pm 7.27 am  
High water: London Bridge, 7.1 am, 6.2m (20.2ft); 7.46 pm, 6.2m (20.2ft).  
Ayr, 10.2m (33.3ft); 12.25 pm, 10.2m (33.3ft).  
Dover, 4.28 am, 5.6m (18.5ft); 5.12 pm, 5.4m (17.5ft).  
Hull, 11.53 am, 5.7m (18.7ft); 11.49 pm, 5.9m (19.3ft).  
Liverpool, 2.31 am, 7.2m (23.7ft); 5.13 pm, 7.2m (23.7ft).  
High pressure will persist over S Britain while a trough of low pressure moves slowly SE over Scotland.

Mainly dry, rather cloudy. Bright intervals developing; wind light, variable; max temp 8°C or 46°F.

East Anglia, Midlands, E. coast: N. England: Mild, F. coast: gradually clearing; sun mainly dry, with sunny intervals; wind variable, becoming SW light; max temp 7°C (45°F).  
NE, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Mist or fog patches, gradually clearing, bright intervals, perhaps drizzle in places later; wind SW light, increasing moderate or fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).  
Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee areas: Aberdeen: Sunny intervals after early mist patches, cloudy later, rain in places; wind SW light, increasing moderate or fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).  
Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, apart from rain over S. England, Channel Islands, Wales.

England and Wales at first mainly showers in N. NW, may have rain later; rain night fr. 2.

Sea passages: S. North Wind SW, moderate; sea S. Strait of Dover, English Channel, S. light, S. smooth. Irish Sea: Wind SW, fresh; sea rough later; sea rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6°C (43°F); min, 9°C (48°F).  
Manchester: max, 6°C (43°F); min, 9°C (48°F).  
Birmingham: max, 6°C (43°F); min, 9°C (48°F).  
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## HOME NEWS

## Rape-law study does not seek change in Lords ruling

By Marcel Berlins  
Legal Correspondent

Complainants in rape cases should remain anonymous, and evidence about their previous sexual history should be inadmissible, a report published yesterday proposes.

But it does not suggest changing the law so as to reverse the controversial House of Lords ruling that was interpreted as saying that a man could not be guilty of rape if he genuinely believed that the woman was consenting to intercourse, however unreasonable that belief.

The report was prepared by an advisory group of five (including three women) under the chairmanship of Mrs Justice Heilbrunn. It was set up by the Home Secretary in June, after widespread criticism of the decision in the House of Lords case of *Director of Public Prosecutions v Morgan*, involving an RAF sergeant who urged three men to rape his wife.

Among its other recommendations is that there should be at least four women and four men on any jury in a rape case. The group says it is satisfied "that one of the greatest causes of distress to complainants in rape cases is the publicity they sometimes suffer when their names and personal details of

their life are revealed in the press."

The report continues: "Even in the case of a wholly innocent victim whose assailant is convicted, public knowledge of the indignity she has suffered in being raped may be extremely distressing and positively harmful, and the risk of such public knowledge can operate as a severe deterrent to bringing proceedings."

"If the accused is acquitted, the distress and harm caused to the victim can be further aggravated, and the danger of publicity following an acquittal can be a risk a victim is not prepared, understandably, to take."

The group says it was convinced that if the name of the complainant could be kept out of the newspapers, more rape cases would be reported to the police.

Complainants who alleged rape should be and remain anonymous. Only where disclosure of the name of the complainant was essential for the discovery of potential witnesses should there be an exception.

In such cases, which the group sees as being rare, the judge would have the power, on application in private, to order publication of the name. The group rejects the argu-

ment that if the complainant is allowed anonymity so should the accused man. It proposes that breach of anonymity should be a criminal offence.

It takes the view that "the previous sexual history of the alleged victim with third parties is of no significance so far as credibility is concerned, and is only rarely likely to be relevant to issues directly before the jury."

"In contemporary society sexual relationships outside marriage, both steady and of a more casual character, are fairly widespread, and it seems now to be agreed that a woman's sexual experiences with partners of her own choice are indicative neither of untruthfulness nor of a general willingness to consent."

The assumption underlying the existing law was based on the standards of more than a century ago, when sexual experience before marriage might suggest untruthfulness and unreliability as a witness. That assumption was now an anachronism.

The proposed ban on evidence about previous sexual history, the group feels, would reduce the ordeal of the genuine rape victim by restricting the extent to which her private life is can-

vassed in court proceedings. But evidence about her previous sexual conduct with the accused man would be allowed.

A judge should also have the discretion to allow cross-examination about previous sexual history where the evidence related to behaviour by the complainant that was "strikingly similar" to her alleged behaviour during or about the time of the alleged offence.

The group deals at length with the facts and the law in the case of *DPP v Morgan*. It considers that the decision of the House of Lords has given rise to "certain misunderstandings and misgivings in regard to its actual significance and its possible future implications for other cases."

The most important factor, and one that had been almost completely overlooked in comment on it, it says, is that for the first time it has been stated clearly and unambiguously that recklessness as to whether the woman was consenting or not was sufficient guilty intent for a conviction.

Despite its views that *DPP v Morgan* was correctly decided in principle, the group feels that legislation is necessary to clarify the law governing intention in rape cases. To avoid

double, the ruling on recklessness amounting to intention need to be put in statutory form.

It would be unfortunate if future juries would be told that the woman consented, and the accused man acquiesced. There should be a statutory restatement of that concept which would remove the undue or misleading emphasis the phrase suggests.

The group wants it made clear in statutory form that, while there was no legal requirement that the accused man's belief of consent had to be reasonable, the jury could not find the fact of whether it was reasonable or not into account when considering whether to accept the defendant's claim that it was genuine.

There should also be a comprehensive, statutory definition of rape that would emphasize the lack of consent, and not violence, was the essential element. The group proposes that there should be no fewer than four of each sex on any rape jury. A proper balance of views of both sexes was of paramount importance.

Report of the Advisory Group on the Law of Rape, (Cmd 655, Stationery Office, 55p.)  
Leading article, page 15



A Zurbarán still life and Ribera's "Calvary" arriving for the Golden Age of Spanish Painting exhibition at the Royal Academy.

## Mr Shore vague on issue of import controls

By Our Political Staff

In spite of pressure from the Parliamentary Labour Party for selected import controls Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, was able to tell a special meeting yesterday no more than that he was "hopeful" a government statement may be made within a week.

Mr Shore was criticised, and there were comments about the absence from the meeting of Mr Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, and Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment. Mr Shore asserted that any decision was for the Cabinet collectively and not for him alone.

After hearing complaints about the Government's inaction, and its effects upon retailers, forwarders and television tubes, Mr Shore said one of the difficulties of import controls was the danger of causing extremely provocative action by other countries and the damage that could do to employment in Britain's exporting industries.

## Flexible hours for public houses urged

A private member's Bill to provide more flexible opening hours for public houses is to be presented in the House of Commons on December 17 by Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Conservative MP for Rushcliffe, who came eighth in the ballot for private members' legislation.

It would enable a licensee, if he wished, to sell alcoholic drinks at any time between 10 am and midnight, and it would also bring into effect other recommendations of the report of the Erroll Committee on Liquor Licensing.

The full list of those successful: 1, Mr Carter, Labour MP for Birmingham, Northfield; 2, Mr Corbett, Labour MP for Hemel Hempstead; 3, Mr Lane, Conservative MP for Cambridgeshire; 4, Mr MacCormick, Scottish National MP for Argyll; 5, Mr Moran, Labour MP for Gateshead, West; 6, Mr Watkins, Labour MP for Consett; Miss Richardson, Labour MP for Barking; 8, Mr Clarke; 9, Mr Cranley-Gauling, Conservative MP for Woking; and 10, Mr Mather, Conservative MP for Esher.

## Less beef next year and higher prices

By Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent

The output of beef and veal in the second half of 1975 is likely to be more than a fifth lower than in the corresponding months of this year, the Meat and Livestock Commission said yesterday. "Meat prices are likely to be higher next year," the commission said, "but this will depend on the level of consumer demand in the current economic situation."

In its latest livestock survey, the commission says that output of beef next year is likely to amount to almost exactly a million tons, about a sixth less than this year. Imports might

also fall in 1976, since output in the EEC is also falling. Imports from other countries would be governed by the policy of the Community, not by that of the British Government.

The fall in production next year was expected because of the high level of calf slaughtering in 1974. "Beef production in 1977 is unlikely to exceed 950,000 tons, assuming that the breeding herd is expanding again by then," the commission said.

It predicted that fewer than 13 million pigs would have been slaughtered by the end of this year, a drop of almost a sixth from the total in 1974.

## Monster 'more likely to be Viking ship'

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

An important archaeological discovery rather than the carcass of a prehistoric beast more likely to have stumbled upon by those seeking for the Loch Ness monster, a specialist in the churning underwater wrecks said yesterday.

Mr Leo Sheridan, of 1 maintained that photographs evidence being put forward by Dr Robert Rines, of the demy of Applied Sci Roston, and Sir Peter Scot naturalist, was of greater nificance to the geologist than the zoologist. He did not discount the tures as a hoax, but suggested that the key was to establish where were taken in the loch. If he suspected, they may previous records in being shown ancient settlements, might show the remain Vikings ships.

Experience in other parts Britain, and of course Scandinavia, showed how remanent ships on these seas cross the North Sea could released by movements of ment.

Indeed, one of the photographs of an alleged monster, to which naturalists and some attached so much import was a perfect shape for a rudder of one of the V vessels, Mr Sheridan said.

He has not seen the photograph released by Rines showing, in the A can't, into a creature's head. Provided, imagination of the observ picture might be that thick-tipped monster with horns, smiling at the camera.

On the other hand, that sible face might be no more than a log or other floating in the water.

However, Dr Rines and Peter Scott make the case an article in the latest issue of the scientific weekly *Nature*, saving the monster as a eudang species. They argue that better to be safe than sorry.

The creature would be served under schedule on the Conservation of Creatures and Wild Plants 1975, provided it is a cl beast. The name suggests in the article is *Nessii rhombopterus*.

Under the existing regulations the capture of a Loch monster would end in a fine £100.

But the effort might be worth while, since at least one it is still outstanding for a popular daily newspaper which offered £10,000 for a conclusive proof of the existence of the Loch Ness monster. It offer was made originally in 1969, but apparently stands because it has never been withdrawn.

## Firm takes drugs off the market

By Our Medical Correspondent

Two oral contraceptive drugs, Volidan 21 and Serial 28, have been withdrawn from sale in Britain because one of their hormone ingredients has been found to cause breast tumours in dogs. The decision to stop producing the drugs was taken by the manufacturer, Duncan Flockhart and Co, in consultation with the Committee on Safety of Medicines.

There is no evidence that in clinical use these two oral contraceptives are any less safe than others now available; the committee says in a statement issued today. The ban is seen as a precautionary measure.

The tests on which the decision was based were carried out over a seven-year period on beagle bitches. Those treated with megestrol acetate, a progestogen drug, in high dosage developed an increased incidence of breast tumours, some of which were cancerous.

The committee suggests that women who are taking Volidan 21 or Serial 28 (the only preparations containing megestrol acetate) need not stop taking their tablets.

## Boy of 12 who flew to Israel comes home

Lee Borrett, aged 12, who flew alone to Israel to find his mother and was given a return ticket at the airport by his stepfather, arrived back in London yesterday. His uncle, Mr Christopher McArdle, from Rushton, Northamptonshire, was waiting at Heathrow to take him home.

During the flight from Israel the boy sat next to Topol, star of *Fiddler on the Roof*, who said: "We had a laugh and a joke together and talked all the time. He did not say anything to me about his mother and I tried not to talk about it."

"He was treated like a VIP. About 30 minutes after take-off the pilot invited us both into the cockpit and Lee was shown everything about how to fly an aircraft."

Later, the boy spoke of his ordeal. "I arrived in Israel expecting to be met at the airport by my mother. Instead, my stepfather (Mr David Bromands) was there and he said:

"Come with me and we will buy you a ticket to go back home." I asked to stay, but he would not let me. He bought me a ticket and left me at the airport."

His mother was very upset

about the whole affair, he said: "my stepfather had my passport, but left it at the airport for someone else to give me."

The boy stayed with an El Al hostess and her family for two nights.

Mr McArdle said: "We want Lee's mother to come to England so that we can sort out what is going to happen to him. At first we thought that if we said we would not take Lee his parents would have to take him in and realise that they had an obligation to the child. It was not that we did not want Lee; we were just trying to make it harder for his parents to leave him. There is no question of his being sent to an orphanage."

The boy said his mother (who remarried and went to live in Israel) met her present husband, Mr Bromands, on board ship. He said: "We are expecting my mother to come to England. At the moment she is in hospital. My stepfather tells her what to do."

"I was upset when she went to Israel, and I wanted to be with her."

The boy was driven away from the airport by Mr McArdle, who was accompanied by his wife and his daughter.



Going again: "There was a time," Mr Arthur Negus (above) said, "when everybody in England was hoping I might drop something: a piece of porcelain worth a few thousands." But in seven years of the television programme *Going for a Song* he never did (our Arts Reporter writes). After a break of three years it returns to the screen on BBC television early next year. The first recording is in Bristol today. The format remains the same, two experts assessing the items, two guests making their own guesses about their value. It is unscripted.

## Graduates paid more in public sector

By Tim Devlin  
Education Correspondent

The public sector is paying graduates starting salaries between £500 and £1,000 a year higher than their privately offered private industry, according to university and college careers officers.

The officers fear that able people are beginning to be deterred from going into industry at a time when they are most needed. They are also anxious that high salary rates should contribute to a more drastic cut in graduate recruitment in the public sector in 1976.

A report by the Central Services Unit, set up by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors to link career services at universities and polytechnics, was published yesterday.

It says: "Initial salaries for graduates in most categories of employment have risen substantially during the year (August 1974 to July 1975) but some appointments with public authorities can bring higher financial return, especially in the early years, than graduate posts in industry. Since this can be a time of life when the need for money is particularly pressing, the relatively high salaries elsewhere must militate against people taking responsibility in industry."

The unit's management committee says there is a vital need to attract many more graduates into industry.

Mr Brian Punt, the unit's director, said in London that industry was offering graduate starting salaries last September averaging £2,500 to £2,600 a year.

Mr Norman Lloyd, chairman of the Standing Conference of University Appointment Services (which now includes careers officers at polytechnics) said local authorities and the public service were paying starting salaries for graduates of between £3,300 and £3,600. Some were paying much more.

Dr Stephen Bragg, chairman of the unit's management committee, said industry had made a great mistake in cutting down on graduate recruitment in 1971. Third annual report of the management committee (Central Services Unit, Crawford House, Prentice Centre Oxford Road, Manchester M15 9EP).

## Water authority may impose new sewage charges

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Southern Water Authority is to decide today whether to impose a new charge for treating sewage from properties not connected to main sewers, as a way of recouping the income lost as a result of last

week's House of Lords judgment in the Daymond case.

The judgment said that people whose premises were not connected to main sewers should not pay charges.

Some of the nine regional water authorities already levy a charge for the treatment of sewage delivered to them, but

the Southern Water Authority, which does not, is the first to take a decision in the light of the Daymond case.

A meeting of the authority will be asked to impose a charge of £2.74 for each load of 1,000 gallons of effluent delivered to its plant for processing.

If the scheme wins approval some people may pay more than they were doing before the case. One ratepayer with a cesspit in the Southern Water Authority area estimated that he would in future be paying £28 a year, compared with the previous combined water and sewage rate of £10.

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## Decision today on appeal plea by George Davis

By a Staff Reporter

Judgment is to be given in the Court of Appeal today on George Davis's application for leave to appeal against his conviction and 20-year sentence for armed robbery and wounding a policeman.

Mr John Marriage, QC, for Mr Davis, of Belton Way, Bow, London, submitted yesterday that a breach of the rules of evidence during the trial constituted a miscarriage of justice and was in itself ground for appeal and the quashing of Mr

Davis's conviction. The jury was given, after its retirement, statements by a witness that had not been given in evidence earlier, he said.

Mr Kenneth Richardson, for the Crown, said earlier that the irregularity was a harmless administrative slip that could not in the least have affected the verdict.

Before adjourning the hearing yesterday the court refused an application by Mr Marriage for leave to introduce fresh evidence.

## N Ireland has highest prices and inflation

The latest cost-of-living report based on regional surveys, published today, shows that shop prices and the rate of inflation are greatest in Northern Ireland. The surveys were made in November.

If house prices are included in the cost of living the South-east is the most expensive area in which to live (8 per cent above average) and Scotland the second most expensive (5 per cent above average). Wales is about 3 per cent below average.

There is clear evidence in the report that the national rate of inflation is declining. The rise in the regional survey index over six months has fallen from 11.3 per cent in August to 5.3 per cent in November.

## Kew gardens

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, will be closed on Christmas Day and on New Year's Day. The house and grounds will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

## Lord Stokes's BBC radio appeal fails

A complaint by Lord Stokes, then chairman of British Leyland, about an item broadcast in *Today*, the BBC radio programme, last July, has not been upheld by the BBC Programme Complaints Commission.

Part of the item consisted of an interview with a British Leyland employee who said he bought shares in response to an appeal by Lord Stokes. He had lost a substantial sum of money. Lord Stokes had denied making such an appeal.

The commission said the interview was made in good faith and there was no apparent reason to doubt its authenticity.

## Japan's population now more than 111 million

Tokyo, Dec 10.—Japan's population totalled 111,933,818 on October 1, and had doubled in 55 years, the Prime Minister's office announced today after an official census. The population consisted of 55,085,752 males and 56,848,066 females in 32,143,748 families.—AP.

## Coroner criticizes braking system in runaway coach

A coroner yesterday criticized the design of a modern British coach, the Leyland Leopard. He said the braking system could be put out of action by a collision on the front offside.

Mr Hubert Gough, the Western Cumbria Coroner, said at a Keswick inquest that he was disturbed that lives of people travelling on the 45-seat coach could be put in peril by a collision with a comparatively light car.

He praised the coach driver, Mr Brian Balshaw, aged 36, of Blackpool Road, Preston, who halted the coach by driving it into trees when his coach ran without brakes or gears down a steep hill on the A591 road near Keswick.

One passenger on the express coach, travelling between London and Whitehaven, died in the accident on August 28. Of the 35 other passengers, 23 were taken to hospital with light injuries. The driver of the car involved in the collision also died.

## Protest over plan to close school

Twenty-five widows whose sons go to the Royal Marsden School at Bushey, Hertfordshire, which is due to close in 1977, demonstrated outside the Freemasons Hall in Holborn, London, yesterday.

They presented the Grand Lodge with a demand that the school should be saved.

## £110,000 award

Mr Christopher John Culnan, aged 28, crippled for life when the car in which he was travelling hit a camel in the Middle East, was awarded £110,000 agreed damages in the High Court yesterday.

## Electrical rep advice issued

The Office of Fair Trading yesterday published an offering advice to consumers who needed service and work carried out on electrical appliances (our Electrical Correspondent).

It is being distributed free of charge from local authority trading standards departments.

## Ex-JP remanded

William Grundy, aged 40, former chairman of Northamptonshire Police Authority, was remanded on bail of £500 on March 8 by magistrates at Northampton yesterday on charges.

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[illegible]

Cornelius Michael McFadden and Patrick Peter Cunningham applied for leave to appeal against their convictions at the Central Criminal Court (Mr Justice Goff) for conspiracy to defraud for offences relating to bombs planted at Madame Tinsdale's restaurant in London and Uxbridge, on the ground that the verdicts were unsafe. The court allowed leave to appeal against conviction but refused their reasons. Applications for leave to appeal were also considered by the court.

John Platts-Mills, QC, and Mr C. G. Allan for McFadden; Mr Ralph Gibson, QC, and Mr Michael Goffman for Cunningham; Mr Brian Watling, QC, Mr Graham East and Mr Paul Crampton for the Crown. Mr James Gaudin was counsel for the prosecution.

The first judge had an interest in seeing that time was not wasted and that the case was heard when the cost of many serious criminal cases was met out of the public purse. He was concerned for the taxpayer's interest. Among those who should be concerned were the defence advisers. If the defence advisers did not or could not exhibit that concern, the judge should not hesitate to stress that before intervening in that field, the judge should be satisfied that the case was fully. It required great experience and a considerable exercise of tact for the judge to have to make such construction in view of the destructive of the climate needed to foster fairness to all concerned in the case.

It had to be stressed that the

that the applicants alleged that the differences which arose between the two examinations were due to the fact that the applicants were due to misconduct on the part of Mr Justice Melford Stevenson. The judge took the unusual course of ordering a re-examination stating that when the legal aid costs were taxed particular attention should be paid to the extent to which the applicants had contributed to the costs. In the event a substantial sum was disallowed on taxation of the fees of counsel. The General Council of the Bar had investigated the conduct of the barristers in question and would report on their conduct when tested by the professional standards laid down by the Bar Council.

It was important to be clear about the different functions of the courts and other bodies involved in the administration of justice. The court's only function was to see whether the verdicts against the applicants were safe and satisfactory. The first submission of relevance misconduct attributed to the judge was that the judge had referred to comments in the amplifying up where Mr Turner-Samuels had examined a witness. The prosecution witness was described as "fierce", "ferocious" or "bitchy". The submission was that such comments must have denigrated the case presented by Mr Turner-Samuels and that the judge, as a lay judge, had relied on the cross-examination by Mr Turner-Samuels.

The judge said that such cross-examination and possible prejudice to McFadden was too remote. The argument also required the judge to find that

regard to the Bar were exclusively vested in the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar Council, and the Bar Council. A judge who considered that he had cause to complain of a barrister's professional conduct could apply to the Council but had no power himself to take disciplinary action.

A judge had no power to tax the costs of a counsel or solicitor, in order what should or should not be allowed on taxation.

The Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings (Fees and Expenses) Regulations, 1968, provided that fees and expenses should be taxed and expenses should be paid by a person who should allow as expenses as appeared fair and reasonable and reasonably incurred. If there was an appeal from the taxing authority's decision, the appellant was not allowed more than 10% of the taxing master might consult the trial judge.

There was no provision for a right to be given by the judge, who was not in a position to know many of the relevant facts.

inquiries. The judge was  
minded, unless, and until he was  
first consulted by the taxing  
authority, to drawing attention to  
specific or specific or specific or  
his view, might be relevant. If  
the judge was consulted it was to  
enable the person deciding what  
should or should not be allowed  
to be heard to be heard to be heard  
to the course of the trial and in  
particular as to what, if anything,  
the judge's view represented  
work resulting in unreasonable or  
unnecessary expenditure of money  
on decision and gave no  
direction, otherwise a situation  
might arise in which the taxing  
authority would have to override  
the judge's decision.

A judge of the Melford Stevenson  
type, I propose to direct the  
clerk of the court to make a note  
under the guidance of the taxing  
authority.

The judge said that the  
Tiar tactic caused Mr John Cobb,  
QC for the Crown, to call wit-  
nesses to the effect that he was  
saying that they had not made a  
pilot, and a serious waste of time  
resulted.

The judge came to a head  
with the matter. "I am gen-  
tly deeply concerned about the  
time that this case is taking. . . .  
I have listened carefully to the  
cross-examination to see whether  
there is anything in the evidence  
for any suggestion of [fingerprint  
planting]. Nothing of the kind  
has been revealed, and I think  
a general groping cross-examina-  
tion is not justified. . . . I am  
not, officer, and, indeed, being that  
post officer, to every depart-  
ment of Scotland Yard, where  
documents could be stored, is not  
proper. . . . I believe it is my  
duty and I believe I have the  
commission of the kind which is

That was a strong expression of view, but it was in terms his opinion for the taxing authority's action. He did not go outside a authority.

Inquiries made by the court had revealed that the judge had been consulted by the senior taxing officer as to what he had in mind. He did not give any direction to the assessing officer and the taxing authority had in no degree interfered with his function to judge. The court hoped that the law would remove any public misunderstanding as to the facts.

The court said that the judge's comments from time to time to give

now being conducted is a breach of the rules of advocacy, and that the judge was "right" time after time. The judge's ruling on a scale which is quite "right" is, quite clear. I wish to say that publicly."

In spite of that intervention, Mr. Justice Macpherson stood his ground and persuaded the judge that he had the right to "probe" that issue, which he was then called to do over a period covering many days and numerous additional witnesses.

The court said that the judge made no further attempt to interfere after the reason for cross-examination had been explained to him.

The court rejected any suggestion that that had rendered any of the verdicts unsafe or unsatisfactory. There was no question of the judge's having been guilty of any deliberate wasting of time for personal advantage or for any

The applications had been the occasion for assembling all the events in the progress of the trial which could be the subject of criticism. They had, of necessity, been presented to the court in concentration. At the trial they had been distributed and diluted over some 45 days. No doubt the issues would have been better understood, but in the context of the mass of evidence and the argument developed before the jury, there was no cause for thinking that the issues were treated fairly. Before the jury and the court had no misgivings as to the propriety of the verdicts.

Solicitors: Bowling & Co.; DPP:

# Insurance claim court told

A fire at Brigade Mill at North Walsham, Norfolk, which resulted in the death of a resident, has led to an insurance claim for £153,700, was so large that "there was no stopping it burning", a witness told a court proceeding at which magistrates sat yesterday.

Reporting restrictions have been issued in the case of Geoffrey Howard Allen, aged 56, described as a resident at the "Golf Course", of Pulham Market, Diss, Norfolk, and seven others who are accused of conspiring together and with others to induce the Royal Insurance Company to pay a claim for £153,700. The former wife, Marion Knox Tucker, aged 47, of Littleborough, Norfolk, are similarly charged with conspiring to

grove Hall, Suffron Walden, Essex.

Mr Arthur Sidney Wainman, a retired bank official who lives next to the mill, said that just after 9.30 pm on August 7 he heard a noise like falling rain and realised that there was a fire.

"The mill was well alight; there was no stopping it at all."

Mr Whitworth said that after the fire he met Mr Howard and Teresa Dawson, two Misses Dawson, and asked him if he had any idea how the fire had started.

Mr Edgar Denton, a Jersey hotelier, said Mr Howard and Paul Knox Tucker, who lives at the mill, had moved into the mill from his hotel from August 3 to 10 this year. After a telephone call on August 8, Mr Howard told Mr Denton there had been a fire at a

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## THE DISTRIBUTION ADVISORY SERVICE.

A fire at Bridge Mill at North Walsham, Norfolk, which resulted in an alleged fraudulent fire insurance claim for £153,700, was so big that it was described as "being lit burning," a witness told committal proceedings at Norwich Magistrates Court yesterday.

Mr Justice Goff said the fire was lit in the case of Geoffrey Leonard Allen, aged 56, described as the prosecutor, and his father, William, of Fulham Market, Diss, Norfolk, and seven others who are accused of conspiring together and with others to induce the Royal Insurance Co. to pay a claim.

Mr Allen and his former wife, Marion Knox Tucker, aged 47, of Atrichbourne, Norfolk, are similarly charged with conspiring to induce the Royal Insurance Co. to settle a £150,000 claim on Short-

grove Hall, Suffron Walden, Essex.

Mr Arthur Sidney Whitworth, retired bank official who lives near the mill, said that just after 2.30 pm on August 30 the fire broke out with noise like falling rain and roared so that the mill was on fire. He said that the noise was so loud that he was not stopping it at all.

Mr Whitworth said that after he saw Michael Howard and Terence Kinnear, who were with him, he asked him if he had any idea about the fire he started.

Mr Edgar Denton, a Jersey hotelier, said Mr Howard and Paul Rogers, who were with him, had left his hotel from August 3 to 10 of this year. After a telephone call on August 8, Mr Howard told Denton there had been a fire and said that he was not stopping it.

The hearing continues today.

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## WEST EUROPE

# Señor Arias expected to include critics of regime in new Cabinet

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, Dec 10

There was speculation in Madrid today that Señor Arias Navarro, the Prime Minister, would try to give his Cabinet a new look by naming four men known for their outspokenness in the past. They are José María de Arellano, the Count of Motrico, who was one of General Franco's most distinguished ambassadors, Señor Manuel Fraga Iribarne, Ambassador in London until last month and a former Minister of Information and Tourism, Señor Federico Silva Muñoz, a former Minister of Public Works, and Señor Adolfo Suárez, former governor of Segovia and director of state-run television.

None of these represents an anti-regime group, but they have spoken out against some of the regime's policies, particularly Señor Arellano and Señor Fraga, who have called for liberalization.

While Señor Arias is holding his series of meetings to choose his new Cabinet, which is expected to be announced by Friday, strikes are affecting different parts of the country.

Today was the first of three "days of struggle" organized by the communist-influenced *Justa Democrática*.

In Madrid, according to official figures, 25,000 workers went on strike yesterday; most of them were still out today. At one factory, police evicted 800 striking workers. The workers taking part in the "days of

struggle" are protesting over a wage freeze and are asking for amnesty for political prisoners.

In Tarragona protesters had police on the run when they chose a novel way of expressing their dissent. They plucked the feathers from a dozen hens and painted their bodies with anti-regime slogans. The hens were let loose.

Señor Marcelino Camacho, the leader of the illegal Workers' Commissions, appeared before a magistrate of the political Public Order Court today. The court must decide whether Señor Camacho, who was freed on pardon 10 days ago and re-arrested three days ago, must face new charges.

According to political prisoners and their relatives, who gave a news conference secretly in Madrid today, an estimated 2,000 prisoners are still locked up. In the opinion of the prisoners, they are not longer held in the same manner as they were released under the King's "general pardon", but about the same number had been arrested since then.

They alleged that the police were dropping subtle new tactics, such as making political prisoners remove their shoes and socks before they were locked up in basement cells at the central police headquarters. In the *Modelo* prison in Barcelona, they said, the police recently used an electric cattle prod to control rioting prisoners.

## Commission takes five of Nine to court over oil stocks

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, Dec 10

The European Commission has opened legal proceedings against five EEC member states, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Ireland and The Netherlands, for failing to pass laws to ensure sufficient emergency stocks of oil.

The action arises from a recent EEC decision to maintain enough stocks of various oil products to cover 90 days' consumption. All member states should have introduced national legislation to secure this goal.

Nevertheless, in a report to the European Parliament, the Commission says stocks in the Community have topped the 90-day mark throughout this year. In June, for example, they were enough to cover 95 days' consumption.

The 18 industrialized nations who are members of the Paris-

based International Energy Agency were meeting in Brussels today to prepare their standpoint for the energy part of next week's conference in Paris on energy and other raw materials.

According to well-informed sources, they decided to continue to oppose any concept of linking oil prices to the rate of inflation in the West, an idea supported strongly by the oil-producing countries. In spite of pressure from some quarters for a hard-line approach to price questions, there was general agreement to "wait and see".

The question of fixing a floor price to protect the oil investments of oil producers like Britain was not discussed because it is not due to surface at next week's conference. The sources said this was a question to be sorted out at a later stage.

## Portuguese minister likely to be dropped

From Michael Knipe  
Lisbon, Dec 10

Dr Jorge Sa Borges, Portuguese Minister of Social Affairs, will be dropped from the Government because he resigned from the centre-left Popular Democratic Party (PPD), according to Dr Francisco Sa Carneiro, the PPD Secretary-General.

Dr Sa Carneiro was speaking at a press conference today after the resignation of 22 leading members of his party, which with 30 deputies is the second largest in Portugal. In addition to Dr Sa Borges, they included three secretaries of state in the Government, 17 assembly deputies including the party's leader in the assembly, and a former acting secretary general.

Dr Sa Carneiro said the constituent assembly would be considering the legal position of the dissident PPD deputies, but in his opinion they no longer had a right to their seats. At the assembly elections last spring they had stood as representatives of the party and had been backed by party funds.

The assembly is drafting a new constitution before national elections expected in the spring. Dr Sa Carneiro said the Prime Minister, had assured him that all members of the sixth Provisional Government were representatives of their respective parties. The PPD would be entitled to nominate new representatives in the Government. He described the Prime Minister's attitude as realistic.

There were hard fought negotiations between the Socialists, the PPD and the Communists when the sixth Provisional Government was formed last September. They resulted in the parties being represented roughly in proportion to the votes they received in the assembly elections. The Socialists received four ministries, the PPD two and the Communists one.

At the time because of the antagonisms between the PPD and the Communists it was emphasized that the Government was one of national unity and not a formal coalition of the parties.

However, Dr Sa Carneiro said today that with a Government reshuffle expected, one possible move might be the strengthening of the administration by again making it a formal three-party coalition with each of the party leaders serving as ministers without portfolio. This was the format of the fourth Provisional Government which collapsed in July when the Socialists withdrew.



Mrs Sakharov holding the diploma of her husband's Nobel Peace Prize. In the background is Mrs Linaess, chairman of the Nobel committee.

## Dr Sakharov appeals for amnesty

Oslo, Dec 10. — Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet physicist and outspoken defender of human rights, today appealed for a general political amnesty throughout the world. We made the appeal in a short speech read by his wife Yelena after she had accepted this year's Nobel Peace Prize on his behalf.

Dr Sakharov was denied permission to travel to Oslo to receive the prize, which consists of a gold medal, a diploma, and 630,000 Swedish crowns (£70,000). His 800-word speech was read by his wife to a packed gathering which included King Olav and Mr Bratteli, the Norwegian Prime Minister.

Dr Sakharov said he was "very grateful and very proud" to see his name placed together with the names of many other people, among them Albert Schweitzer.

Before reading her husband's speech Mrs Sakharov said he was now in Vilnius, capital of Lithuania, where the scientist Dr Sergei Kovalev was being held.

"Due to those same strange characteristics (of Soviet society) which made it impossible for Sakharov to be in Oslo, he is at present near the court building, not inside, but standing out in the street in the cold, for the second day, awaiting the sentence against his closest friend", Mrs Sakharov said.

The Soviet Ambassador and ambassadors from other East European states were absent after receiving the prize. Mrs Sakharov surprised those present, and especially King Olav,

by presenting him with a gift from her husband—a copy of his latest book, *My Country and the World*. The King accepted the gift smilingly and chatted briefly with Mrs Sakharov, wishing her a pleasant stay in Norway.

Twice during the ceremony King Olav, Crown Prince Harald, Crown Princess Sonja, members of the Government, Parliament, the diplomatic corps and almost 1,000 other invited guests rose and applauded Mrs Sakharov.

Mrs Aase Linaess, chairman of the Nobel committee, said Dr Sakharov was given the Peace Prize for his struggle for human rights, for disarmament and for cooperation between all nations because the struggle had peace as its final goal.

The Nobel committee deeply deplores that Andrei Sakharov has been prevented from being present here today in person to receive the Peace Prize," she said.

Mrs Linaess said Dr Sakharov believed that his views on the need to stop nuclear tests had had some effect. This was when the United States and the Soviet Union signed the treaty in 1963 banning tests in the air, in space and in the ocean—Reuter and AP.

Moscow, Dec 10.—Dr Sakharov said this morning that he thought the award would draw attention to the problem of human rights. He was speaking to a Western correspondent in Vilnius, where Dr Kovalev, a fellow prisoner, is on trial.

"I am very sorry that I could not attend the Nobel ceremony today," Dr Sakharov said. The

Soviet authorities last month refused an exit visa.

Dr Sakharov described the award as "an important moment which cannot be left without attention". He continued: "I still think that if I had been allowed to go, it would have served to consolidate détente and would have been a sign of good will. The struggle for human rights, in my deepest conviction, is connected with the process of easing tension."

Dr Sakharov was today for the second day running refused entry into the courtroom where Dr Kovalev is on trial for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda".

He then went to the main post office in Vilnius to place a telephone call to his wife in Oslo. He said that he had previously tried until 2 am this morning to get through, but without success—Reuter.

Our Stockholm correspondent writes: Winners of this year's Nobel prizes, other than the Peace Prize, received their awards at a ceremony in Stockholm.

Many of the prize-winners and many former laureates signed petitions to Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, and to President Assad, of Syria, calling for an end to persecution of Jews and for freedom of citizens to emigrate.

Dr Linus Pauling, of California, laureate in both chemistry and peace, told reporters that Soviet attitudes reminded him of the McCarthy period in America, when he was refused a passport on grounds of "national security".

## OVERSEAS

## House drops contempt proceedings brought against Dr Kissinger

From Fred Emery  
Washington, Dec 10

The recommendation before Congress to cite Dr Kissinger, Secretary of State, for contempt in failing to supply subpoenaed documents was withdrawn today as expected. The information sought from Dr Kissinger by the House intelligence committee had been supplied satisfactorily, Mr Otis Pike, the committee chairman, said, by documents and readings from them supplied by President Ford's staff at the White House.

The items outstanding were State Department recommendations for covert activity between 1962 and 1972. President Ford had tried originally to invoke executive privilege to block Mr Pike and company were relieved at not being forced to go further in this case.

A very shrewd member of the committee, Mr Les Aspin, who was formerly a Pentagon expert on defence and intelligence matters, went along to the White House. If he was satisfied, a majority in Congress would have to be too.

Mr Pike said the outcome could be called a victory, but he would refrain from claiming that the committee seems to have been another collapse of executive privilege, a dubious doctrine that Dr Kissinger adheres to unwisely after it was credited by overuse and abuse under Mr Nixon.

Many in the "establishment" here deplore that Mr Pike went to the extent of having his committee recommend the Secretary of State for contempt. It certainly marked a further lapse of comity between branches of the American Government working. Without the action, however, it is possible that the committee would never have heard what it wanted for investigation. Not weeks ago, Dr Kissinger gave yesterday unprecedented explanations of the strategic arms negotiations inside the Administration.

A similar contempt action was dropped against Mr Rogers Morton, the outgoing Secretary of Commerce, after he agreed to hand over what he at first refused: confidential reports by American firms of their connivance at the Arab boycott of Israel.

According to reports of those reports in more than three quarters of the world, the past few years, firms have withheld information that they were complying with the boycott, going Ambassador to Britain.

was approved as successor to Mr Morton this morning, by the Senate commerce committee.

Dr Kissinger left today to attend the Nato ministerial meeting in Brussels and later the conference in Paris with producers and third-world nations.

His officials put about it news that the Nato allies were close to agreeing a new proposal for the four-nation talks with the Warsaw Pact countries, including, apparently, the American nuclear weapons.

He has misread the situation in Portugal continuously, indeed, who has not? clearly allowed his own gloom to colour his appreciation of what his own people were reporting from Lisbon.

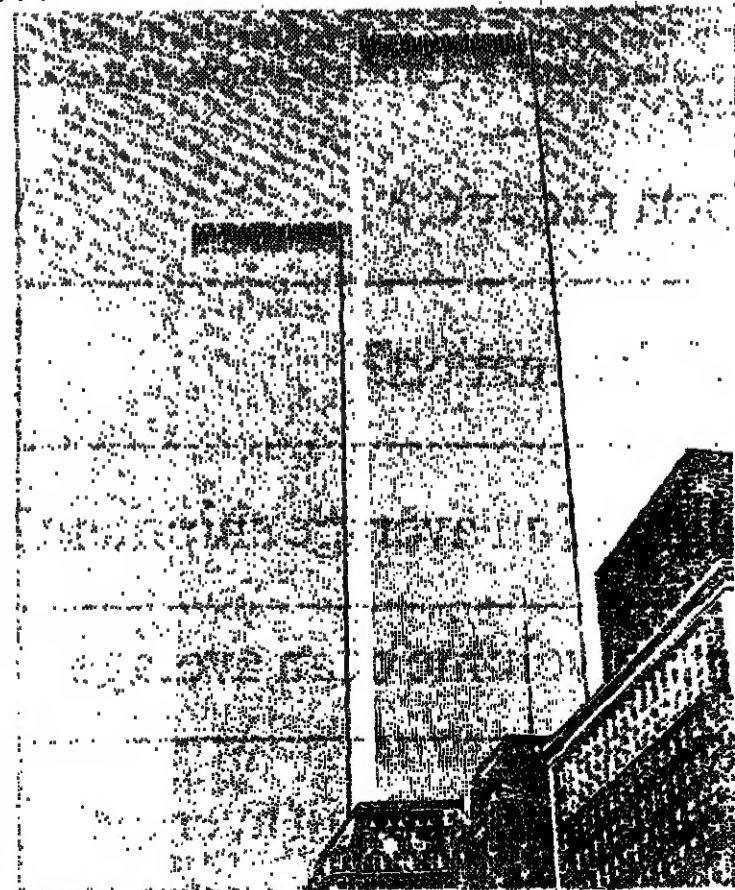
He has heard frequently private to wish that Portugal would go communist, just give the alliance a good shakedown and bring it to its knees in a new solidarity.

He seems perplexed and confused that Lisbon has gone bright red and at a how to proceed in politics except to bemoan the trend towards cooperation with communists that he sees even France. How far he will bring this up with ministers is clear, but the matter seems never far from his mind.

Angola, although outside Nato, will also be brought in with discussions focusing on what more the West can do to thwart the Soviet-backed liberation movement for the liberation of Angola. For the time yesterday, Dr Kissinger was helping neighbouring countries.

The assumption has been that American armaments have been funneled to the Zaire forces of Mr Holden Roberto, but Dr Kissinger's use of the plural is taken to mean American help is going to Zambia as well. He specifies that he did not mean any was going to South Africa.

## The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has moved to its new office in the World Trade Center in New York.



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## Only one guard at site of £600,000 art theft

From Sue Masterman  
The Hague, Dec 10

Piccola 75, the art dealership exhibition from which four paintings by Jan Breughel and one by Pieter Brueghel, insured for more than £600,000, were stolen during the weekend, was guarded at night by only one man, it was learned today.

The paintings exhibited, valued at more than £10m, were hung in the Maasvlakte Eurobel, near the Belgian and German borders. The total exhibition area of more than 2,000 sq yds was thickly carpeted and the one guard took 107 minutes or more to complete his round.

In addition, part of the exhibition hall backed on to a sports complex and was only separated from it by a thin partition. No trace of a forced entry has yet been found.

The owners of the Breughel paintings, two London art dealers, have said they will not exhibit at Piccola in future, unless security precautions are tightened. The insurance companies concerned are offering a substantial reward for information concerning the whereabouts of the paintings. It is generally agreed in art circles that they cannot be sold, as they are much too well known.

The four paintings by Jan Breughel form the famous "Four Elements" series. The Pieter Brueghel, "Return from the Fair", is also very well known. "The Four Elements",

belongs to the Terry-Engell Gallery, the "The Return from the Fair" to the Leger Gallery.

The Terry-Engell Gallery is to be taken over by a Dutch art dealer, Mr Rob Norman on March 1, but the Breughels do not form part of the sale.

The art theft, one of the most sensational ever to take place in the Netherlands, was entirely overshadowed there by the terrorist activities in Belgium and Amsterdam, has led to fierce criticism of the security measures.

The night watchman could not see because of the thick pile carpeting, what was going on outside his field of vision. The thieves also had an easy task since the lights in the exhibition hall were left on at night. The only outside security was the routine city police patrols.

It is not even certain exactly when the paintings were stolen. The night watchman and the security man who took over from him on Saturday morning both say the pictures were still there.

The organizers of Piccola 75, Art and Project International, undeterred by the robbery, have announced that their exhibition was such a success that in future they will exhibit biannually. The next Piccola will be held from May 21 to 29, 1977. The organizers promise that there will be more than one guard at night.

## Bonn call to improve air safety

From Dan van der Vae  
Bonn, Dec 10

A reform of the air safety system over West Germany is needed urgently, a joint session of the Bundestag transport and defence committees decided in Bonn today.

The four-hour meeting, which took place behind closed doors, examined the complications in air traffic control arising from heavy usage of limited air space by civil aircraft and much military flying by several Nato air forces.

Some 300 "near misses" have been recorded here so far this year in the air. The most spectacular recent case forced the captain of a Lufthansa airliner to go into a crash dive to avoid two Luftwaffe fighters on a collision course. The pilots were later suspended.

The Government is to publish a plan for tightening safety regulations early in the New Year, whereupon two committees will probably meet again.

Among the problems identified by the committees, according to spokesmen after the meeting, were the special dangers at low levels, where military aircraft, sporting aircraft and executive aircraft fly heavily on flying by sight. The only effective solution would be a totally integrated single traffic control network to supervise all civil and military flying.

## Higher welfare costs anger French

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Dec 10

Employers' managers and trade unions today joined in a chorus of protest at Government proposals to save the French state social security services from bankruptcy next year. M Michel Durafour, the Minister of Labour, was only too right in predicting that to satisfy all parties he would have to square the circle.

Faced by the prospect of a 10,000m franc (£1,111m) deficit in 1976, if contributions and payments for medical services, old age pensions and family allowances continue as at present, the minister announced yesterday that all sides of industry must contribute more from January 1.

This particularly annoyed employers because M Jean Pierre Fourcade, the Minister of Economics, had publicly promised them only a few days ago that social charges would not be increased during the present economic troubles, while firms are being urged to reinvest.

But the employers' contributions—like those of the workers—are to go up an additional 1 per cent of total wages. M François Ceyrac, president of the Patronat, the French employers' organization, told the

Government here today that before putting an additional burden on business it would have done better to clean up its own faults in administering social security and appeal to citizens to use the system more responsibly.

The sharpest reaction came from the Confederation des Cadres, the professional organization of middle ranking and senior executives which regards itself as representing the most highly taxed sector of the population.

All the trade union confederations, from Communists to Catholics, complain that the increased charges mean a cut in the workers' standards of living. To this M Durafour has replied that no one can go on demanding both higher wages and better welfare services without being willing to pay any more—in an economy where the growth rates are unlikely in the next few years to equal those of the 1960s.

M Durafour has also proposed cutting the value-added tax on pharmaceutical products from 20 to 7 per cent and making economies in the hospital service. Together these should top 1,700m francs from next year's expected deficit. The increased contributions will wipe off the rest.

In the political field the extreme right now feels that the time has come to play on the deeply felt desire for law and order among the silent majority and head an offensive against every form of subversion.

Last night M Joel Dupuy, a former socialist and now a member in Paris that M Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, M Marchais, the Communist secretary general, and M Seguy, leader of the Communist-dominated CGT union confederation, should all be charged before the High Court.

Vigorously applauded by the audience, made up of both young and old, M Dupuy declared that the people of France would no longer tolerate attacks on its army.

M Dupuy said that his committee had a membership of 35,000, and that 30,000 persons had signed his "counter appeal" launched in March in reply to the "appeal of the hundred" of leftist soldiers for improvements in the condition of military service and the democratization of the armed forces.

Affording singing "The Marseillaise", the meeting broke up. There were no clashes outside. Vast forces of police had seen to that.

## Clash on human rights at end of church assembly

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Dec 10

The World Council of Churches ended its fifth assembly in Nairobi tonight after two and a half weeks of open discussion topics ranging from the place of women in the church and the community, disarmament and the responsibility of Christians to combat racism in all its forms, to the development of the ecumenical movement.

In the final days of the conference, a clash occurred between delegates from the Soviet Union and other Eastern block countries and the Western delegates before a compromise was agreed on the question of human rights in the Soviet Union.

There were also lengthy and heated discussions on the controversial Programme to Combat Racism (PCR), under which the World Council aids mainly African liberation groups; and when Asian delegates complained that human rights in their part of the world were being overlooked while the spotlight remained on Africa, concern was recorded about the violations of human rights in every country of Asia.

Nevertheless, there was agreement among the delegates that this assembly had been less sensational than some of its predecessors. The assembly is held only every seven years and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, commented today that one of the great contrasts had been the prominent role now played by women and young people.

However, he saw the question of communication between the world council's headquarters at Geneva and some 300 member churches throughout the world as a problem requiring urgent attention. "It is easy to issue edicts in rather technical language here which would not be understood in a tiny country parish far away," he explained.

Another important aspect of the conference, he said, was the strong emphasis on evangelism in view of the fact that families, churches, and popular religion and other human problems were more serious today than they were at the time of the 1968 assembly in Uppsala. Dr Coggan and other Church of England delegates agreed that this increasing emphasis was making it more difficult to further the process of dialogue with members of other faiths.

Increased support for a Programme to Combat Racism, a concerted effort to get young people all over the world to aid to Christians and others who are harassed or imprisoned for defending human rights were all approved.

In the discussion on the PCR, Bishop Philip Russell, of New Zealand, moved an amendment to deny assistance to organizations causing serious injury or the taking of life. Behind many of the debates in the assembly was the shadow of the financial crisis facing the world council. Churches in America and West Germany were asked to increase 1976 contributions by a 10 per cent from the 1973 figures, and other churches were asked to raise their contributions by 10 per cent or by as much as they could.

This is an effort to close a gap between an estimated budget of 8.2m Swiss francs (about £1.5m) and an estimated income of only 5.6m francs.

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The hope was dashed a few days ago when the private age contractors went on strike against their companies. Mayor tried to solve the problem by asking the city's sanitation men to work overtime, the veto to which he had tried to get. They have a mean idea that it would mean "blood money".

## Another dustmen's strike hits New York

From Our Own Correspondent  
New York, Dec 10

The sun has come out again, the skies are blue over Manhattan, it is a warm December day and the stink from the rotting garbage in the streets is rising heavenwards.

A dustmen's strike has now lasted for nine days, and people are once again walking in the roadways because the pavements are often impassable with waist-high piles of malodorous rubbish.

It is a private strike this time, not a public one. The municipal garbage collection service was breaking down earlier this year, even before the city slid into near bankruptcy.

The Mayor took to visiting the dustmen's depots at odd hours of the day, and was incensed to discover, as often as not, that more dustmen were there "resting" than were out on the streets collecting garbage. Sanitationmen, as they are called, are very well paid but prefer working extra hours, at

overtime rates. That was the reason for the strike by day.

It was also notable that the smarter parts of the city enjoyed a far better service than the slums and the places as Harlem. So when the strike broke the city, first and most prominent measures were the dismissal of 2,000 sanitationmen.

There were strikes demonstrations at the time, the mayor called in 450 police firms to clear the garbage. It seemed for a moment that city might thus save money and be cleaner a result.

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OVERSEAS

# Boston school in state of siege after judge orders takeover

From Patrick Brogan  
There were 120 policemen on duty in and around South Boston High School today, twice the usual number. The local office of the main black civil rights organization was firebombed during the night, and three black schoolboys were arrested and two were injured in the school in fights with white boys.

This was all because racial integration in Boston took another step forward yesterday when a federal judge took over the school himself and removed the headmaster and the football coach because the school has been desegregated peacefully.

The school is on the top of a hill in a working class district of Boston which is isolated from the rest of the city between the city and a great swathe of roads and railways. It is an Irish Catholic district and is the centre of the fight in Boston against desegregation by busing. Judge Arthur Garrity ordered the busing last year, on the grounds that the local school had done nothing to desegregate the city's schools.

Black children have been brought into South Boston High School by bus ever since, and white children have been driven out to schools in black districts, some of them five or six miles away from the city. All the buses need police protection, and a large police force has been needed inside the school to keep the peace.

The judge ruled yesterday that, in fact, the peace had not been properly kept because of obstruction from the city's school board, and that the school is not providing proper desegregated education.

# Cheering Egyptians greet M Giscard

From Our Correspondent  
Cairo, Dec 10  
Thousands of Egyptians today gave a rousing welcome to President Giscard d'Estaing when he arrived in Cairo on the first visit to the country by a French president.

Crowds carrying banners in French and Arabic, and waving Egyptian and French flags, welcomed the route from Cairo airport to the Kubbah Republic Palace, where President Giscard will stay.

President Sadat and Mrs. Sadat greeted the French president and his wife when they landed on board a special aircraft. Before it landed, the aircraft was escorted by a squadron from the Egyptian Air Force.

When the aircraft stopped on the tarmac, a 21-gun salute was fired and crowds packing observation balconies informed sources in Cairo said the talks between the two leaders would concentrate on three main subjects: political, military and economic.

On the political side, the residents would exchange views on Middle East developments and coordination to encourage present peace moves to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. The two men have developed a close understanding, and President Giscard d'Estaing was quoted by the Egyptian official Middle East news agency as having said in Paris that his views and those of Mr. Sadat were identical on all issues they would discuss.

They are expected to hold two rounds of talks and their conversations also will include the Geneva Middle East conference and the question of participation by the Palestinians as an official delegation.

President Giscard d'Estaing enjoys a special prestige in the Arab world for his support of the Arab cause and Palestinian rights.

Militarily, the two leaders will consider the possibility of French participation in an ambitious programme for an arms industry in Egypt. Further sales of French weapons to Egypt are also likely to come up during the talks.

After President Sadat's first visit to Paris last January, France agreed to supply Egypt with jet fighter-bombers and other weapons in response to Cairo's decision to diversify its sources of weapons. This question was again discussed when Mr. Sadat stopped over in Paris on the way to the United States in October.

Economic subjects at the talks will include French financial and technical assistance to carry out Egyptian development projects, including factories operated by nuclear power and telecommunication networks.

Cairo, Dec 10.—President Giscard d'Estaing tonight promised the fullest French help for Egypt in the development of its economy.

At an official dinner given by Mr. Sadat he said: "France feels directly interested in the existence of a peaceful, prosperous and strong Egypt, an indispensable factor of stability in a region of the world whose fate is essential to world peace."

Egyptian officials announced tonight that France and Egypt would sign on Saturday an agreement providing for the construction of a 600-megawatt nuclear power plant in the Nile delta area, due to go into operation in 1984.—Reuter.

# How 'Jim' views the responsibilities of Mr Callaghan, Foreign Secretary

by David Spenser  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
"I want to take foreign affairs into the market place. I want to show that foreign policy is not a thing apart and the Foreign Office is not a place apart." Mr. James Callaghan said yesterday introducing a pamphlet he has written on foreign policy.

To be accurate, one should say "Jim Callaghan", because the Secretary of State's paper is a Fabian tract, No. 439, and that is how he styles himself in it.

Since he took over at the Foreign Office 21 months ago, he has been keen on opening up the discussion of British foreign policy. As the pamphlet puts it, "foreign policy is not in itself to be hidden in the temple, untouched by profane hands." The problems of peace and war, riches and poverty, liberty and oppression "should not, and cannot, be left as the sole prerogative of a few foreign policy 'experts'."

What is more, Mr. Callaghan believes that the more the British people take an interest in the world beyond their shores, the less preoccupied they will be with their own economic problems and the better they will see themselves in perspective.

Surprisingly for a man who has just set the European Community into such a turmoil over his wish to go it alone at the producers-consumers conference next week, Mr. Callaghan emerges as a committed internationalist.

The nature of diplomacy has changed, he writes. "It is still about the traditional and important issues of peace and war, but more and more, diplomacy is about such matters as energy, and economic

relationships and trade", he says.

Increasingly, international institutions must be used to ensure that initiatives are effective. "This is the age of the multilateralism and the main thrust of our foreign policy must be in a multilateral context," he writes. "Of course this cannot be the exclusive thrust of our foreign policy... but it is through a multilateral approach that we can often make our voice most effective."

He adds approvingly that, in the run-up to the producers-consumers conference in the United Nations, the EEC countries were able to speak with a single voice throughout the session, a voice which reflected many of the ideas which Britain had advanced months earlier. (The paper was written before the recent clash of views of course.)

If anyone should ask, in light of this, why Mr. Callaghan seems to be so difficult in the European Community, the answer he would no doubt give is that he is not alone. The French are not the only ones who can play at that game.

The other side of Mr. Callaghan's basic theme of interdependence abroad is the interdependence of foreign policy into the rest of government business. "I am an active foreign policy man," he writes, "and that should run parallel to domestic recovery, and can aid that recovery."

Foreign policy was not merely subject to the constraints of the British economic predicament and of British public opinion. "Nowadays it is also an integral part of the Government's entire strategy, economic, cultural and social," he writes.

As part of his plan to open up foreign affairs to wider discussion, Mr. Callaghan now holds regular meetings with the Trades Union Congress and the Confederation of British Industry to review policy. The recent "round table" with the Soviet Union was also a step in that direction.

Summing up, the paper gives this definition of Britain's diplomacy: "The purposes of our foreign policy are twofold. One purpose is to use our external relationships in this difficult period through which Britain is passing to support and bolster our own efforts to rebuild our economic strength."

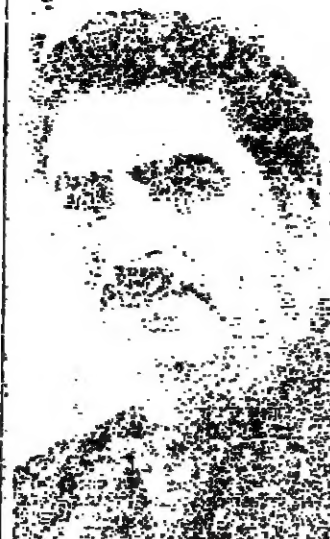
"A successful foreign policy can have favourable reactions on the domestic scene while, conversely, a confident, democratic, progressive and well-run society at home will certainly increase our stature overseas."

The second purpose is to use our influence, our experience and worldwide relationships to help solve the political and economic problems of the world, and especially to redress the current imbalance between rich and poor nations."

Mr. Callaghan's overtly political sentiment in his paper is his concluding remark: "Economic considerations must never silence us on the great issues of human rights and human dignity. A Labour Government will always speak out on these issues, whether it be for the freer movement of ideas and people on our own continent, or in demanding an end to racial discrimination in southern Africa."

A Labour foreign secretary, he adds, cannot be a Don Quixote tilting at every windmill. Neither could he hear and see no evil.

Challenges and opportunities for British foreign policy, Fabian Society, 30p.



Mr Taufiq Ziad: noted for revolutionary verse.

# Communist mayor in Nazareth

From Eric Marsden  
Nazareth, Dec 10  
In an office by the side of the Virgin Mary's Well here Communist Party officials today were celebrating the election of Nazareth's first Communist mayor, Mr Taufiq Ziad, a Muslim. He polled 67 per cent of the votes to beat three rivals and headed a Democratic Front list which won 11 of the 17 seats on the Nazareth town council.

Israel Government officials are predicting that the result may have grave consequences for Jewish-Arab relations, but this gloom is not shared in Nazareth. There was no sign of tension in the town today.

Officials of the Democratic Front emphasized that though Nazareth has elected a Communist mayor, it has not "gone red" as it is being claimed by Israeli politicians. Its 11 seats are evenly split between the New Communist Party and the Alliance of Academics, Merchants and Workers, which have five each. The remaining four seats are held by a doctor who belongs to both organizations.

Mr Ziad, who is 46, is a Communist member of the Knesset and a poet famous throughout the Arab world for his revolutionary spirit. He was circumspect in his victory speech. He promised that he would stick to issues relating to the town's development and would not use his mayoral office as a rostrum for national politics.

There are few doctrinaire Communists in Nazareth and the joint victory of the New Communist Party and the non-party alliance is more of a pointer to the growth of Palestinian nationalist feelings, prompting the town's Arabs to seek an alternative to voting for Israel establishment parties.

In an interview, Mr Rayek Jarjoura, aged 38, a Nazareth lawyer and leader of the Alliance of Academics, Merchants and Workers, denied that the Democratic Front was Communist dominated.

# US to supply Israel with advanced fighter

From Our Own Correspondent  
Washington, Dec 10  
The United States is to sell Israel a number of F15 jet fighters, the advanced twin-engine aircraft which the United States Air Force is just introducing.

A Pentagon announcement said details of the sale, including numbers and delivery dates, were being withheld at the request of Israel. It is known that Israel wishes to acquire the F15, and the lighter F16 which is not yet in production, to match the advanced fighter-bombers supplied by Syria.

# MPLA forces now advancing after recovering from early setbacks

## Soviet aid turns the tide in Angola civil war

From Nicholas Ashford  
Johannesburg, Dec 10

The war in Angola appears to be changing in favour of the Marxist Liberation Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

During the past two weeks there has been a dramatic change in the military situation. At the time of Angola's independence last month the MPLA was being squeezed by the forces of the Angolan National Liberation Front (FNLA) and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) back into a strip of territory stretching east from Luanda. Now it is advancing on three fronts.

The MPLA's success, largely due to a huge injection of Soviet and Cuban arms and assistance, has led to speculation that the movement could win a total military victory. This seems unlikely, partly because of the tribal loyalties which the other two movements command, and also because UNITA and the FNLA are themselves receiving increased support from the West.

Despite its recent success the MPLA controls less territory now than it did in August when its forces held 12 of the country's 16 provincial capitals. But the MPLA is not going to be crushed and it will be an essential element in any future attempts to achieve a political settlement.

Probably the MPLA's biggest single success has been to the north of Luanda. Three weeks ago the FNLA held positions only 18 miles outside the

capital and had the important water pumping station at (un-named) within reach. Since then the MPLA has driven the FNLA forces out of the town of Cuito and northwards along the Atlantic coast towards Ambriz, an FNLA stronghold. Ambriz is now reported to be under MPLA control. MPLA forces are also advancing north-east along the road to Cuito, the MPLA's headquarters.

In the south the remnants of FNLA, UNITA and white minority forces, which in a month captured much of southern Angola from the MPLA, have been recaptured. Another force which was heading for the Cameroonian coast and hydro-electric scheme at Dondo (where an oil pipeline is being laid) has hit solid MPLA opposition at Cuito, about 50 miles east of Porto Amboim.

An FNLA-UNITA advance on the main road from Namibia (formerly Namibia) towards Oshana has also been repulsed. This force was 20 miles up with the other one heading towards Dondo.

The fighting in the south is reported to have been particularly heavy with severe losses on both sides. The MPLA, backed by Cuban "advisers", has been using rocket launchers as well as small arms.

The situation in the east is more fluid with both sides making claims and counter-claims. The key town of Namibe has been recaptured by the MPLA after its seizure by the FNLA-UNITA last month. The MPLA still holds the big air base of Henrique de Carvalho near the Zaire border, although UNITA claims its forces are fighting there.

Probably the most serious setback for the combined

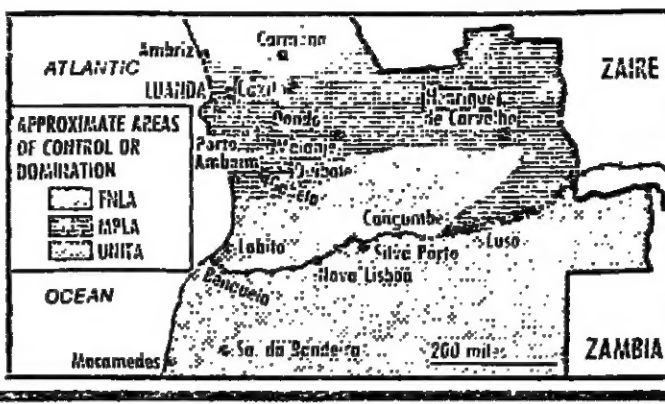
FNLA-UNITA army has been its failure so far to recapture the whole of the Namibia railway which runs from the Atlantic port of Lunde to the Zaire and Zambian coasts. The MPLA still controls the central railway from Cuito and, secondly, a strong MPLA force, including Katangan mercenaries, advanced more than 70 miles westwards towards Silva's military headquarters at Silva Porto before being turned back. Control of Lunde is disputed.

There is no prospect of an early reopening of the railway which is Africa for Zaire and Zambia's copper exports. However the western end may soon be able to carry supplies to FNLA and UNITA forces inland.

The latest developments bode ill for South Africa which is becoming increasingly nervous about the establishment of a permanent Soviet presence along the northern border of South-West Africa (Namibia).

Although the extent of South Africa's involvement in Angola has been exaggerated and is modest compared with the Soviet Union, the fact that its troops are there at all has scared off Western and African countries who otherwise share Pretoria's fears about Soviet intentions.

South Africa is in danger of being trapped alone in its support for UNITA and the FNLA (which themselves have been embarrassed by South Africa's involvement). No one, it seems, wants to be seen as an ally of apartheid.



# Vorster fear of 'Marxist belt' across Africa

From Our Own Correspondent  
Johannesburg, Dec 10

Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, today added his voice to the growing chorus of concern over Russia and Cuban involvement in Angola.

He said at Stellenbosch University, of which he is Chancellor, that it was the Soviet Union's intention to have a string of Marxist states across Africa from Angola to Tan-

zania. "This would have serious consequences not only for South Africa but for states such as Zaire and Zambia and the Western world", he said.

If the Soviet Union, through its backing of the left-wing Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), established a permanent presence in Angola it would stand astride the Cape sea route.

He said South Africa had no

territorial ambitions in Angola or any desire to create a sphere of influence there. A "hypocritical debate" had been started about alleged South African involvement, the aim of which was to make South Africa a scapegoat.

While Mr Vorster was speaking it was announced that another South African soldier, the nineteenth so far, had died after an action in the "border operational area".

Pastor Cornelius Njoba, the Chief Minister of Ovamboland, the tribal homeland south of the Angolan border, today said that bands of armed insurgents had penetrated deep inside South West Africa (Namibia).

Addis Ababa: Organization of African Unity (OAU) foreign ministers will hold an extraordinary session here from December 19 to 21 to discuss the Angolan situation, the OAU secretariat announced today.

# Two British lawyers in Nkomo team

From Our Correspondent  
Lusaka, Dec 10  
Two British lawyers and a former Rhodesian judge who is now Deputy Chief Justice of Zambia have joined the team of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zambian African leader, in his bid to lead his party at 10am tomorrow for a vote in his constituency. He is the first of the 100 members of the Government team headed by Mr Nkomo, the Prime Minister, to try to resolve Rhodesia's constitutional problem.

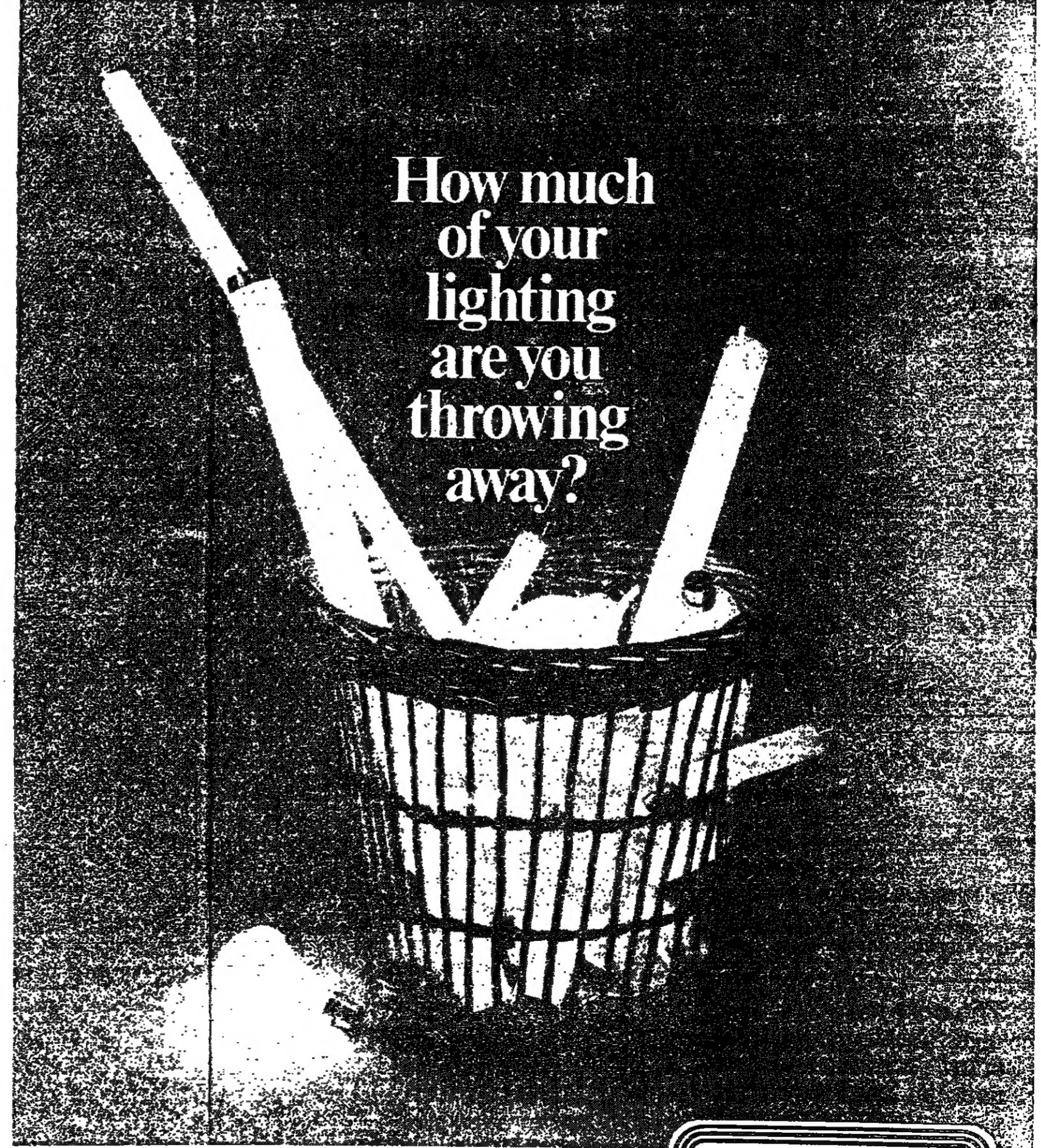
The British lawyers, Mr Roland Brown and Mr Robert Wright, QC, flew into Lusaka today in a Zambian Air Force aircraft with Mr Leo Baeke, a former Dulayev lawyer, who was detained immediately upon his arrival in November, 1953, and was held until April, 1967.

Mr Brown went to Zambia in 1968 from London and is now Deputy Chief Justice of Zambia. He has been Mr Nkomo's legal adviser for many years.

Mr Nkomo also named a 12-man delegation. The Zambian Government's involvement in the talks was evident in the presence of Mr Brown as well as Mr Peter Kasanda, deputy ambassador to South Africa, and four Zambian women secretaries and two male officials.

Asked at a press conference if tomorrow's meeting was just another preliminary meeting, Mr Nkomo said it was not. He would be concerned if it would be the first preliminary meeting and historically December 11, 1975, would be regarded as the date the constitutional conference began.

Asked to comment on Mr Smith's statement in the Senate on Tuesday that the conference would start without preconditions and there would be no immediate majority rule, Mr Nkomo said Mr Smith was entitled to say what he liked. As far as he was concerned, both sides were getting together to discuss a constitution for all the people of the country.



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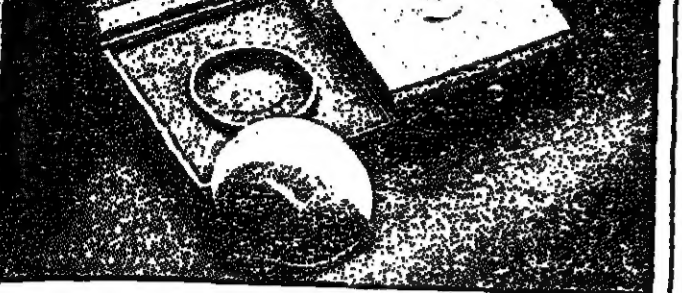
## Shopping in New York/Shona Crawford Poole

Why do a New York shopping page? For fun, and because it is a great place to shop, and because almost everyone who visits the United States spends anything from an hour or two to days in the city.

The elegance of the posh stores, the fascination of the specialist shops, the dash, the cash and the choice are dazzling. So for those who are forced by pressure of business or pleasure to rush through the shopping delights of New York—and with no time to waste—a quick guide to just a few of its attractions.

Trade is so international these days that few things you can find in the New York shopping street everyone has heard of, and the Bottom of Central Park down to Madison Square where you will find anywhere.

In the upper reaches, between magnificent department stores and offices, are the names which crop up in every major magazine. Indeed fashion accessories which prominently display the designer's signature are so popular that it is not unusual to see well-groomed people sporting the latest work of art on their wrists. And I wish I had done a headcount of the number of women I saw on one sunny morning wearing identical or similar rain hats (from Saks Fifth Avenue, about £5).



here the seat in front of you an aeroplane conceals a "discomfort" bag and instructions in emergency procedures, it also offers a magazine with local advertising and news. As navigation aids to the city, I find these unhelpful, so I offer a lightning guide to some of New York's magnificent department stores. (My estimate is a small gesture of respect for this bit.)

**Goodman**, Fifth Avenue at Plaza, has lovely, extensive clothes, and especially helpful salesladies. It is not a comfortable place to sit on a quiet Monday morning but might be better at other times.

**Bendel**, 57th Street near Fifth Avenue, should not be missed. The ground floor is taken up into tiny boutiques, with the same rich red decor, and these sell exquisitely covetable and expensive gifts, accessories and cosmetics. Fashion is upstairs.

**Fifth Avenue** is an enormous store and has a greater selection of designer label clothes under one roof than I have seen anywhere.

**1000 Third Avenue**, is an all-round department store. Stock in depth is one of its most impressive attributes—children's clothing, the whole of one of its enormous floors. The linen department has huge stocks of extra fluffy American towels, and many printed designs to coordinate with everything else for the bathroom. There are often good reductions.

**Taylor**, Fifth Avenue at 14th Street, is claimed to be the best store in the United States, and is famous for its style in clothing and household items.

**34th Street** at Herald Square, is a well-known tourist attraction, and no wonder. It has more than 400,000 single items, not counting colours and sizes, on 10 selling floors. There is everything here from kitchen utensils to antique watches, from gourmet foods in between.

**Fitch**, Madison Avenue at 45th Street, is widely held to be the best sporting goods place in the world. Equipment, clothing, accessories, shoes, paintings and even bar equipment for dining, learning, celebrating, make a sportsman's paradise. There is even Rainy Afternoon shop selling door diversions.

**5 West 34th Street**, opposite the Empire State Building, specializes in instantaneous installation of the European shoe collections at working prices.

**Fifth Avenue** at 34th Street, specializes in designer label fashions for men as well as women.

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Two good places to stop for all-American gifts, souvenirs or peace-offerings which are unbreakable, and will no run you into excess baggage charges on the flight home, are the Hallmark Gallery and Tiffany. Hallmark's paper things for parties and greetings cards are well known in Britain, but we see only a tiny sample of the firm's amazing range. The gallery, 5th Avenue at 56th Street, carries more sophisticated and more sickly sweet patterns than the few that cross the Atlantic. Some of them are very smart indeed. There are cards for every occasion, including many you may not have thought of, and huge selections of matching wrapping papers, tags, ties, strings, ribbons, seals, and additional decorations. The shop also offers a wide selection of really beautiful glassware, including a 500-piece circular peacock puzzle at about £2.50, and to mark the bicentennial celebrations an epic 1,000-piece collage of the eagle at £3.50.

Tiffany, on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 57th Street (navigation is a box of birds in New York)

York is not the least bit intimidating compared with other shops that sell similarly swanky merchandise. On a Saturday afternoon the ground floor is packed with young couples in jeans buying something sentimental and not too expensive, as well as bigger spenders in fur coats, their fingers already heavy with previous purchases. Clasp with hair pulled low, plainly not customers, slouch near the exits to ensure fair play. And, not least, Tiffany is full of really lovely things to buy.

Striking modern jewelry from Tiffany's own designers and traditional styles gleam in the showcases. Customers watch with small smiles as their choices are tucked into pale blue boxes, tied with white ribbons, and dropped into tiny marching carrier bags.

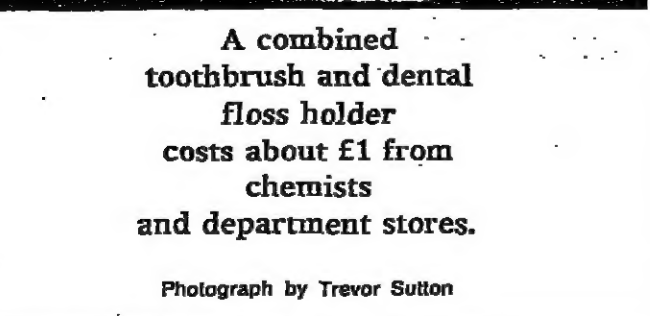
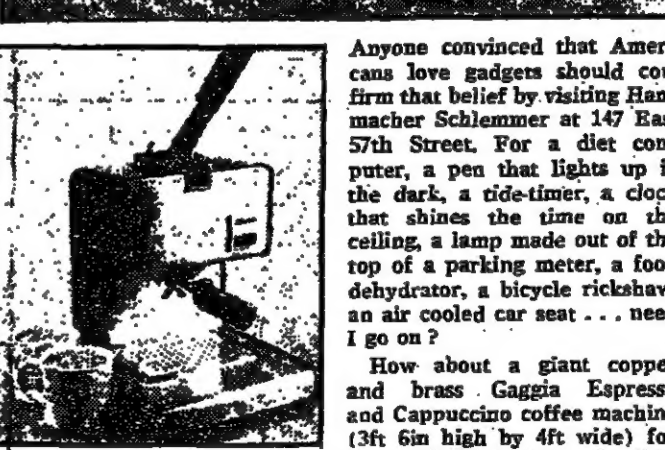
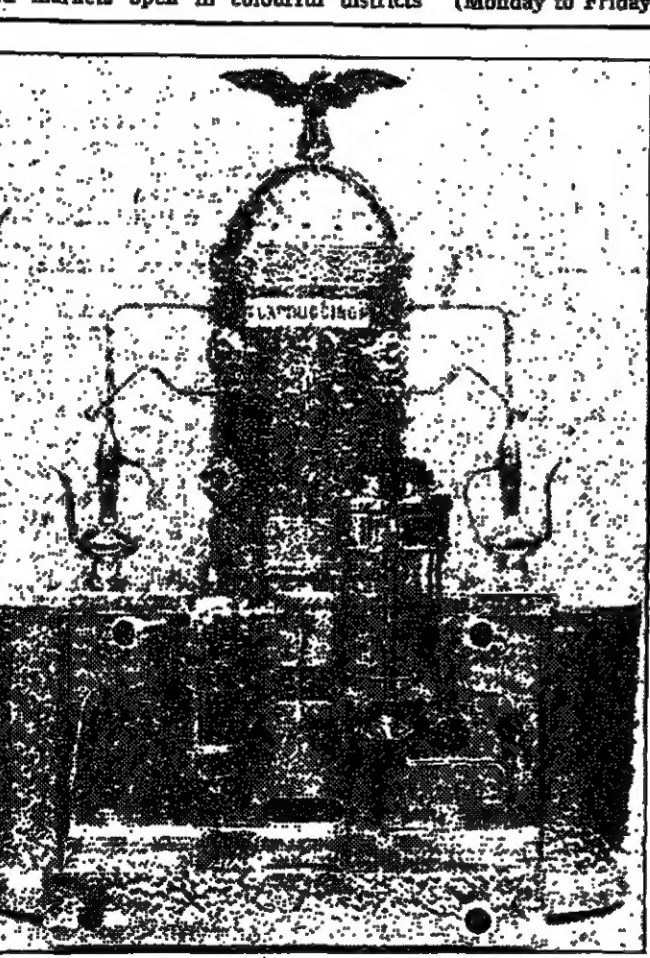
For about £245,000 you can buy an enormous emerald-cut diamond ring set in platinum; for about £12,500 a pair of sterling silver shackles to wear as cufflinks. And for the men who want to buy a ring, but has not quite decided whose finger it must fit, there is a stretch ring in 18 carat gold with four rows of diamonds set in platinum for about £787.



Secret Gardens is the name of the Metropolitan Museum's engagement calendar, about £1.75 from the museum gift shop. Irises, pinks, and violets from the Unicorn Tapestry; lilies from a Flemish masterpiece; red poinsettias from a Winslow Homer watercolour; an orange tree by Matejka; golden bamboo leaves from a Japanese lacquer; a sea-edge garden by Monet... the calendar is a surprising look at a half-hidden world of flowers from the museum's collections. The photograph of the Acrobat shows three views of a single figure. The original Etruscan bronze is in the Metropolitan Museum, where these copies are on sale in the gift shop. The reproduction bronze figures are 4 1/2 inches long and cost about £39 each.

**Shopping hours:** Many shops and stores open between 9 am and 9.30 am, but some, generally art or exclusive establishments, wait until 10 am or later to admit customers. Late shopping night in Manhattan is Thursday, when most stores stay open until 7.30 pm and a few until 9 pm. If Sunday is your only free day in a hectic business schedule, there are shops and markets open in colourful districts

which New Yorkers haunt in search of bargains and brunch. Kate Simon's superb *An Uncommon Guidebook*, New York Places and Pleasures (Davis-Poynter, £3.00) describes the shopping and eating possibilities in enthusiastic detail. Also open on Sunday (14.45) is the Metropolitan Museum's excellent gift and souvenir shop. Money: Banking hours are 9 am to 3 pm (Monday to Friday). Ordinary commercial banks will not exchange sterling notes for dollars. These transactions are conducted by foreign exchanges, which are few and far between. Sales tax: In New York City a sales tax of 8 per cent is levied on all purchases except essential foodstuffs. Taxis: Ruin in the rush hour strains New York's otherwise plentiful supply of taxis. Rates are on a par with London now... expensive.



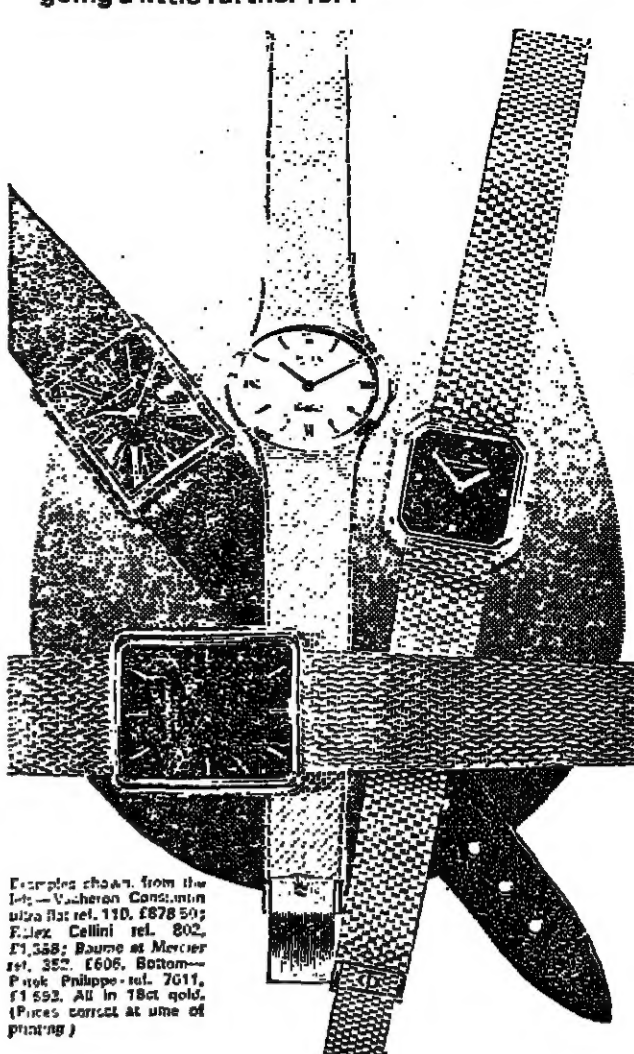
A combined toothbrush and dental floss holder costs about £1 from chemists and department stores.

Photograph by Trevor Sutton

Women with big feet should visit two specialist shoe shops on Fifth Avenue, Tall Gals at number 603 and Massey's Shoes at 389. Both sell high fashion and sensible shoes in wide and narrow fittings. Tall Gals stock American sizes 9 to 13 and Massey's sizes 8 to 15.

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# Americans in Britain

The arts and banking, industry and entertainment, education, the sciences, the law: there are few significant fields of British public life in which American citizens do not play an active and enriching role. This Special Report, the second in an occasional series on foreign communities in the United Kingdom, examines some aspects of that role, as seen by both parties. Below and on page IV are a few of the leading protagonists



Larry Adler, entertainer



David H. Bagley, admiral



Jerome Bruner, professor of psychology



Ernestine Carter, journalist



Robert Cohan, ballet dancer



Virginia Cowles, biographer



Harry G. Cressman, company chairman



Stuart W. Don, financier



Douglas Fairbanks, actor



Mia Farrow, actress



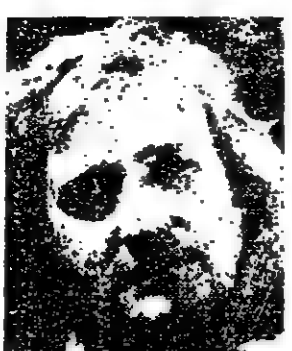
A. L. Goodhart, professor of jurisprudence



Jack A. Herriot, foreign service officer



Jeffrey S. Howies, banker



Norman Jewison, film director



Robert Lowell, poet and playwright



Victor Lowmes, publisher



Charles Marowitz, theatre director



Jessye Norman, soprano

## A chance to work half as hard for twice the money

by Alfred Friendly

he blunt about it, Americans in Britain are city about the country, py as clear as high tide. The London correspondent of an American newspaper, asked if he was due to a transfer after four years, he replied that he said only prayers night and night, denied them in large cities at home, and easy access to cultural and entertainment facilities, good and, for them, fairly cheap public transport. These quite compensate for the grotesque known as the telephone system. What Americans may not be directly conscious of, but sense nevertheless, is that their hosts, in general, are fond of each other and conduct themselves with kindness. The key condition for all these joys is an American income at the top, or near it, of the professional and specialist salary scale. The best part is that most Americans here have such an income. There is a dearth in Britain of American businessmen, parolourmaids and rag pickers and instead, a concentration of bankers, brokers, lawyers, senior journalists, engineers, entrepreneurs and business executives.

Almost all would live very well, and did, in the United States. They live considerably better in Britain and a lot more easily, despite inflation, which in any event is not so hard on them as on the natives. One man's attenuated pound is another's changes his dollars. According to the latest United States census (1970) there are about 47,000 American civilians living in Britain. Here, with necessarily gross omissions, are the main categories, in ascending order of numbers and visibility: American wives of British nationals, almost all sunk without trace in the indigenous and greatly to its enhancement. All those I know are lovely and have been surely the best imports Britain has ever brought from across the Atlantic. American exchange professors and scholars, about 600 of them at last year's count. They too are engulfed in the

maw of British academia where they remain for a year or longer. Some become more dourish than the dons, but must provide considerable entertainment value and perhaps even a little useful scholarship. American exchange students, numbers unknown, here for a term or a year but seldom longer. They stand out by reason of sloppier dress than their fellow students, are inferior in the matter of writing a competent sentence, but are much easier in demeanour and much readier to question and talk with their teachers, being less stunted than British youth by the doctrine of magisterial omnipotence known as the "Sir syndrome" in earlier schooling. Show business types and Beautiful People, unfortunately not much different from their British counterparts. When British economics sharply worsened a

year or two ago, great numbers of them packed up and flew off, a deprivation the British have borne with characteristic stiff-upper-lip bravery. In addition, there are the military—some 21,000 officers and men at present. They are not as homogeneous as one might think. Some proudly uphold the tradition of never leaving Fort Sam Houston in spirit, whether their bodies are in East Anglia, Ankara or the Ross Ice Shelf. In terms of mixing they make the sabhis in *Passage to India* look positively folksy. But the large majority on the bases, despite the isolation, are often and happily in the company of their village neighbours, the men learning to become pub crawlers, their wives to shop at the local greengrocers and both sexes involved from time to time in community activities. Almost all look forward to going home after

their tours of duty, but nevertheless are cheerful about their life here. The business-industrial-financial-managerial community, the majority of all Americans here, is also a mixed bag. Some remain isolated from the aborigines, aside from work-hour contacts, such as the bankers who retain incestuous parity within their Chester Square cocoon. Most of this category, however, live very much within British society, the number of their friends in the host country varying widely depending on temperament, the nature of their business and the length of time they have been in Britain. To be sure, some of their women, especially those living in flats in London, find it hard to get to know the British: about 700 of these, for example, meet each other in the American Women's Club. But even here, except for recourse to bridge on a grand scale, the

attitude is outward-looking towards visits to stately homes, British studies and community services. All these Americans, regardless of how many of their social contacts may be British, remain distinctly and usually American. They are under no illusions about being foreigners in a foreign country. Few fail to recognize that they live among a people whose sets of values are in many ways different from their own and for the most part, are glad of it. It is a matter of degree; the British cherishes leisure, an easier pace of life and equable behaviour more than the Americans. They are less addicted to up-and-at-em philosophy, the Protestant work ethic and the philosophical pronouncement of the late Casey Stengel that "once guys finish last". And that atmosphere provides the Americans with half the charm of living here. Of course, to a man the

Americans remark unhappily on the irritation and sometimes frustration of dealing with British management, union and government figures whose drive towards accomplishment seems sadly deficient and who are much more resistant to new ideas and methods. The other and brighter side of the coin, however, is that many Americans have found they need work only half as hard as they did back home to earn twice the money. I venture a sweeping generalization: that living in Britain makes Americans nicer people. The man in the oil business from Bartlesville, Oklahoma remains his accent, but lowers his voice a few decibels; he is less strident, his elbows are less frequently akimbo. The typical American glancing match over politics, money or the merits of his favourite third baseman is muted. There is a general agreement among the Americans themselves that their de-

meanour has changed for the better, thanks to the British example. Shrewd readers will have remarked that I have written this much without once saying that "Britain is so civilized," a piece of restraint that will surely entitle me to sit in a heavenly seat next to the journalist who produced a piece on Kuwait without once using the term "oil rich". But I cannot conclude without using a sister word. The civility of the British rubs off on their American guests. Praise be. ©Times Newspapers Limited, 1975. The author was formerly the managing editor of the Washington Post and served for five years as its London correspondent. He settled in Britain after his retirement in 1971.

## When the man at Launch Control said, 'All systems go,' he was talking about us.



NASA. Photograph: Apollo 17. Kennedy Space Centre, Cape Canaveral, Florida.

We've been involved in some pretty exciting projects in our time. However, few could equal the Apollo Missions.

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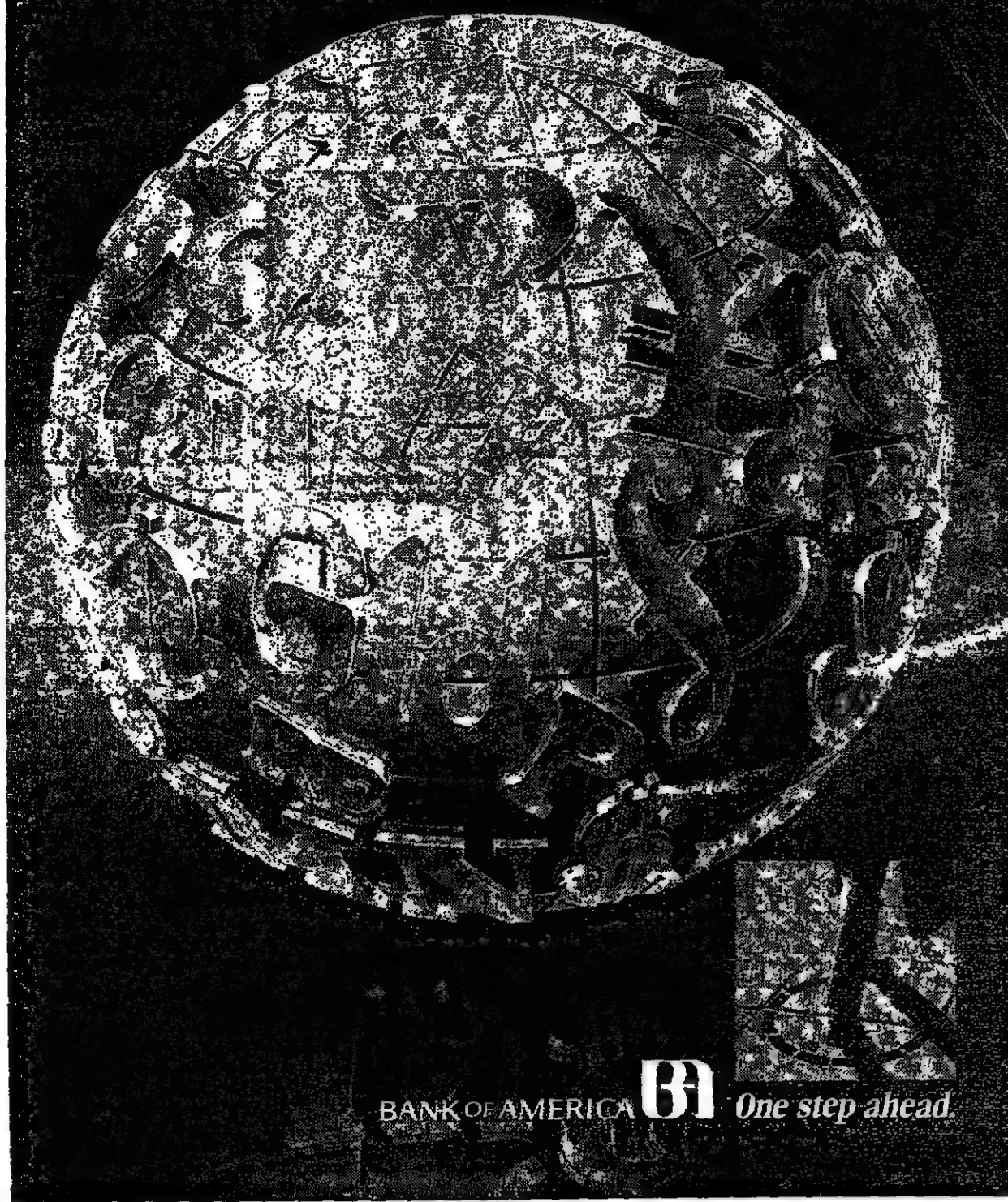


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equipment at our three U.K. sites — Leicester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Glasgow.

On average, nearly one new job has been created at British Caterpillar plants every working day during the past 25 years. Employee wages and benefits increased from £397,000 in 1956 to £13,801,000 in 1974. At the end of 1974, all but 10 of 639 jobs at the supervisory level and above were held by British nationals.

More than 2,300 British companies today furnish Caterpillar's U.K. plants with materials, supplies and services. Purchases from them in 1974 amounted to £55,000,000.

In brief, we have made substantial progress — thanks to the skill, effort and loyalty of the men and women of Caterpillar Ltd., and to the support we have received from our suppliers. We trust the next 25 years will be equally rewarding for all who are associated with us.

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## Hail and farewell to an advocate of optimism

by Louis Heren

The United States has sent some distinguished ambassadors to the Court of St James's. John Adams, James Monroe and John Quincy Adams were here in the early days of the republic, and more recently Mr David Bruce. Mr Elliot Richardson is a man of similar calibre, and great things were expected of his embassy when he was appointed at the turn of the year.

But it was not to be. As everybody must know by now, Mr Richardson is to return to Washington on January 16 to take up his new appointment of Secretary of Commerce. It will be his fourth Cabinet post, his twenty-fifth job in almost as many years. Hence the irresistible urge to see his career as an education for even bigger and better posts. Mr Richardson has no difficulty spinning such suggestions, however. Obviously he is an ambitious man, but he has the happy faculty of enjoying the job at hand and doing it well. He sees the Commerce Department as another opportunity to influence the course of American history. He did well as Under Secretary of State in the last 1960s, and he could eventually succeed Dr Henry Kissinger. Whether or not he will also follow the two Adams and Monroes from London to the White House remains to be seen, but he has already been mentioned as a possible vice-presidential candidate.

Whatever the future holds, Mr Richardson enjoyed his months in London. He likes Britain, and he refers to the pessimistic forecasts of our imminent collapse. He thinks that the next year or two will be "hell", to use his word, but he insists that British industry and the trade unions are not as bad as they are said to be.



Mr Elliot Richardson: "happy faculty of enjoying the job at hand and doing it well".

He has a high respect for the present British Government. He admires the skill of the Prime Minister for maintaining the national equilibrium during a stormy period and he thinks that the Cabinet is well above average. Ministers such as Mr Callaghan, Mr Healey, Mr Jenkins and Mr Crosland would, he believes, have dominated the United States Senate if they had been born American.

He recognizes the weaknesses as well as strengths of Britain; nevertheless, Mr Richardson believes that 10 years' time nations which have achieved a higher gross national product will be sending study groups to London to investigate how Britain maintained what he sees as an enviable balance between the new and the old, the efficient and the civilized.

Mr Richardson also recognizes the importance of the present post with its three main functions of negotiating, reporting and representing. He would have been happy to have remained in London much longer, but the urge to do things is understandably stronger than the attractions of diplomacy. To some extent, his time in London has prepared him for a more active post. The issues that have interested him have tended to be international in character and scope: trade, commodities, Nato standardization and cooperation, the growing gap between the developed and developing nations, and the multinational corporations which, he is ready to believe, could close that gap better than any foreign aid programme.

The vacancy he leaves behind will not immediately

be filled. A successor is unlikely to be appointed before the next presidential election. The process of nomination and confirmation and the possibility of a change at the White House would deter the most ambitious man, but the United States Foreign Service is well equipped to handle an interregnum. Deputy heads of mission, all of whom are professional diplomats, are accustomed to running embassies.

Not every American ambassador is of Mr Richardson's calibre. Most of them are political appointees. Some have little knowledge of foreign affairs, although the candidate for one embassy who did not know

the name of the capital of the country to which had been accredited was exception. For this and other reasons, the head of mission is ambassador in fact but not in name.

Mr Ronald Spiers, Minister in Grosvenor Square, is a very good professional. He knows Britain well, this is his second tour, and he is an acknowledged expert on Nato and international cooperation. He has years of dealing with many political affairs in State Department, appears to share Mr Richardson's liking for Britain, and optimism for her future.

He is tough, too. Although a professional diplomat is evidently incapable of blunders, and he does suffer fools gladly. The embassy is in hands. Mr Spiers is a man capable of reporting British scene back to Washington, and of handling negotiations. He will be assisted by a strong team of specialists. Representing might pose a few problems, a devious head of mission matter how efficient, experienced, cannot hope to place an ambassador in function. Diplomatic pressure is too strict, and rank is large in most minds.

Anglo-American relations are a two-way traffic, a good deal of the work is by the British Embassy in Washington because power lies in that city. British Ambassador over what has been described as a mini-Vietnam, really he has a large staff to keep the wheels turning. All the same, Mr Richardson will be missed.

## London's bonus for bankers

by David Blake

There are, at the latest count, 57 banks from the United States represented in the City of London. All of the leading banks are represented with branches which reflect their size and importance. The Bank of America is the biggest in the world, has 1,000 employees in three offices, the main branch in New York, while its slightly smaller rival, the First National City Bank of New York, has a complement of 1,400. All of the other big New York banks are represented, usually with at least one office in the City and one in the West End.

But running an office in London has long since ceased to be the prerogative of the very large banks. Even in the middle 1960s medium-sized banks were beginning to move in to London to be able to serve their American clients and to gain a share of the rapidly expanding "Euromarkets", which provided the first international capital market in the postwar world free from national restrictions.

By the end of that decade a new generation of "regional" banks from states such as Georgia and Florida were starting to open, usually on a more modest scale than their bigger and longer-established rivals. On the whole, these banks have tended to open representative offices rather than full branches, but the basic point is established; they can add London to the list of places where they operate, and London is still the most important address it is possible to have in international banking.

It has not, however, been the most profitable for all of them, and operations which were set up during the early 1970s, during a boom fuelled by rapid growth of the money supply and big profits from Euromarket issues, have looked a very different prospect during the recession. The City has been full of jokes about the discomfort of some of the smaller American banks: everyone agrees that to be the first bank to pull out of London would involve such a loss of face as to be unacceptable; but there are reputed to be a lot of banks which would join the queue to go.

In fact, during 1975, three American banks have closed their very small representative offices and gone home. But in talking to American bankers it is clear that although the days of heady expansion are over, there is likely to be a rapid run-down of the City's role, along with New York, as one of the great international financial centres. The first reason for this is the size of the American banks. American banks have more funds at their disposal in London than do all the British clearing banks put together. The source of the money tends to be different, with British banks getting much of their cash from the small deposits of customers all over the country, while the Americans rely more on large deposits placed through the Euromarkets. The result, however, is to give the American banks a large capital base in Britain, some of which has been used to build up business which can only be done here.

American banks have a significant portion of their business with British companies which borrow funds to carry on their activities. Sometimes it works out well, sometimes not. During the great property boom, American banks seem to have been no more resistant as a whole to the prospect of huge profits than were their British equivalents. Like others, they have had to learn to be careful to whom they lend.

Much of their business, however, needs a stronger justification than the fact that it already exists. London grew as an international centre because it attracted the lion's share of the so-called "discretionary" business during the 1950s. This is business which could, in theory, be done anywhere, as a Japanese company raises finance for some major mining operation in Africa, or Arab oil producers buy notes from the New Zealand Government.

London accounts for just over 43 per cent of the total "offshore" business done by American banks throughout the world, far the largest proportion, though lower than the 66 per cent which it was responsible for in 1963. London's attractions are a combination of its natural advantages and its banking tradition, as Mr Bruce Mitchell, of the Bank of America, points out.

The most obvious natural advantage, he says, is its position at the western edge of Europe. Just as 400 years ago Britain's position made it the natural trading place for the New World, so now it helps to attract banking business. The issue is one of time which means that London's hours of business have to overlap with those of New York and the Middle and Far East.

This advantage is reinforced by London's good communications, at least by European standards, both in terms of telecommunications and airline services, which makes it a convenient base from which to transact business.

The convenience has been reinforced by the Bank of England's extreme flexibility in banking regulations, compared with the more formal attitudes in other centres such as New York. The Bank made it clear that it was keen to build up London as a very hot financial centre, and would

do its best to help. The impact of this policy on the domestic economy has often been criticized, since it has been argued that it resulted in too great an emphasis being placed on questions such as sterling's parity at the expense of other goals.

No such criticism can be made of London's "offshore" banking activities, since it has no effect on the domestic sector. It is in "offshore" banking that the American banks have made their strongest mark, and it is probably fair to say that they have led it since its inception. They account for 37.5 per cent of the London Eurocurrency market, and are responsible for funds of about \$62,000m compared with \$38,000m accounted for by British banks.

The American domination has meant that the attitudes of the American banks have been very important in setting trends in some parts of the British banking community. Foreign exchange dealers have seen their salaries soar as American banks compete for their services, sometimes to the annoyance of British rivals. More important, the Americans are often spoken of as having created a cult of youth, applying a rule that no banker over 35 can know what he is talking about.

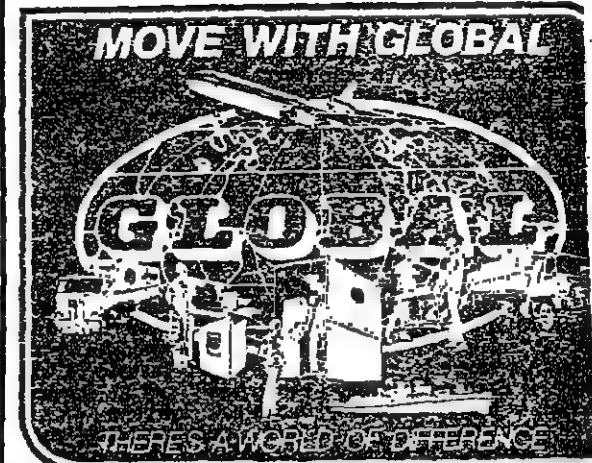
It is a false impression, but there is some truth in it. It is only because of the kind of American staff who tend to be posted to London. As a very rough average, about 10 per cent of the staff at an American bank in Britain will be American, with a high proportion of them in their late twenties or early thirties, rising up through the bank on its management training programme.

London postings tend to be for two or three years and are greatly valued, both because they are seen as being a sign that the trainee is highly regarded and because they involve living in a very pleasant city where there are no language difficulties.

A pleasant environment where English is spoken is, however, also a characteristic of the Bahamas and the Cayman Islands, which have emerged as London's greatest rival in recent years. They have increased their share of American banks' business from 8 per cent in 1969 to 24 per cent, an increase which was reinforced by the change in the British tax system introduced by the last Conservative Government.

Unless there are grave worries about the political stability of the islands, they may be expected to continue to erode London's share of the market. But they are not likely to end London's pre-eminence, since the great attraction of the City is that it provides the only place in the world which can compete with New York as a pool for financial skills.

The American banks are likely to be an aid to the City that pool and to contribute to it in the years ahead. Even the British economy, where inflation last year was clearly very high, seems to be responding to the Government's anti-inflationary action and hopes of an improvement in 1976 encourage a belief that the European markets, which have only just recovered from a very long period, will go on strongly.



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## Financial losses, cultural gains

by Ronald Dworkin

Every year thousands of American professors, lecturers and instructors take up residence in Britain, most often for a term or a year, but sometimes for much longer. In any one year the visiting academic community is so numerous and able that it could make up a creditable university of its own.

For all or some part of the present year, for example, the list includes Kingman Brewster, the president of Yale; Abraham Goldstein, the former dean of Yale's law school; Gregory Vlastos, just finishing as chairman of the philosophy department at Princeton; and the historian Charles Ritchie, who is now the cultural attaché at the United States Embassy.

The exchange programme has been of great intellectual importance. The visit of the young James Watson to Francis Crick's laboratory in Cambridge, for example, produced the double helix, and the busy traffic in philosophy has created a distinctive Anglo-American discipline in that subject.

These short-term visits are only one facet of the American academic presence in Britain. Hundreds of Americans now hold permanent appointments, spread over many universities. In Oxford alone there are dozens, and American professors hold permanent chairs in English literature (Richard Ellman), mathematical logic (Dana Scott), psychology (Jerome Bruner and Laurence Weiskrantz).

Why do they come, and why do they stay? Practically all of them could have positions of comparable prestige in America, and they are paid, on average, less than half what they would earn there. There is much less money available here for research, graduate assistants, secretarial staff, fringe benefits and the other comforts of academic life.

Personal considerations, such as relatives in Britain,

or simply a serene case of Anglophilia, play a large part with individuals. Many were committed to student political activity in the late 1960s, and left America because they found, in Britain's welfare state, more hope for social justice. Others, though many fewer, left for the opposite reason: in the relative calm of academic life here they found relief from the demands that politics made on their intellectual life.

For many the general intellectual resources of Britain, and indeed of Europe, were the decisive reason. London provides an urban intellectual life and a centre of art, music and theatre that only New York, among all the American cities, can match. While New York, with all its physical decay and danger, is outside even the geographical range of most American universities, London is quite close to most British universities, and easily accessible from Oxford.

Beyond these financial losses and cultural gains, different people will see other differences in the academic life of the two countries and I can speak only for myself. I find a striking difference between the demands and attitudes of students in the two countries. Students who wish to see me here write notes; sometimes they ask their tutors to write for them. When I taught at Princeton last year a group of students pushed open my office door, the first day and said they had come to look me over; one of them said it would be useful if I could, in five minutes, say what my course would be about, and another asked (on behalf of a friend, of course) whether I was a "hard grader".

In my Oxford lectures I regularly plead with students to ask questions, but most of those who do are foreign. An English student told me once that in the lecture hall I was

supposed to work, not them. In Princeton—and at Yale and New York University, where I have also taught since coming here—students treat the classroom as a town meeting for the discovery of truth, and sometimes as a Roman circus where the lecturer plays the Christian.

A friend who teaches political philosophy at University College London was surprised to discover, lecturing on Hegel in America, that the students asked questions, not simply to find out what Hegel said, but to his surprise, to find out whether what Hegel said was true.

This difference, which my own experience might exaggerate, is for me a disadvantage here, though others disagree. I find, on the other hand, the immediacy of teaching one student at a time here, in tutorials or supervisions, is a distinct advantage which even the intense American classroom cannot match.

I would also miss the Oxford fusion of intellectual and social life, where lunch spills over into seminars, and seminars into dinner, and dinner into seminars—a great rope of talk, with different strands linking colleagues, students and subjects.

I like the college system of administration, which allows scholars of different subjects to decide matters of policy and priority as a group for themselves, rather than to rely on professional academic administrators as in America; this common enterprise unites scholars in a more satisfactory way, to my tastes, than the joint research projects more typical of universities there.

There is another difference, however, which I find less congenial. In America, university teaching is meant to supply information, skills and concern so as to encourage students to produce work of their own, and grading is the evaluation of the work they produce. In

Britain, teaching is the grooming of excellent minds, and grading is the art of identifying, in a piece of work, the class of the mind that produced it.

I find grading enormously taxing in any case, but much more so here because I am sceptical of the premise that minds come in classes, and alarmed when I am asked to enforce that premise myself.

There can be no doubt, however, that in one crucial respect the academic environment in Britain is superior. In America salaries are fixed differently for each scholar by a dean or chairman or president, and they reflect not only that officer's opinion of the scholar's worth, but his market value as established by financial offers from competing universities. One British friend was astounded to find that in America, whenever two teachers meet, each promises to get a job offer for the other.

Moreover, each teacher is not under contract for the first years of his career and his social and academic relations with his senior colleagues are often corrupted by the fact that his security lies in their hands. In Britain, on the other hand, salaries are fixed by age and rank, and tenure is normally established at the outset of a career. There are disadvantages, but the improvement in candour and independence is a clear gain.

Each of the Americans reaching in Britain would produce a balance-sheet different from mine. But we would agree that the common sense of the methods and virtues of scholarship, still shared and largely unchallenged in both countries, is more important than any distinctions. As long as commonsense remains, the intellectual link will continue to be the strongest of all.

The author has been Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford University since 1969.

## Rich contribution to arts

by John Vaizey

With the shift of military, economic and political weight to America, British cultural provincialism became more than probable. In the visual arts, England has always been provincial in relation to the Continent; with a common language, the likelihood of a similar provinciality in our literature was great, in relation to America.

It was in the contemporary technological art of film and popular music that America established its dominance. With the New York school of painting, and the disruption of a distinctively modern literature and, later, of composing, America became a place that things came from and people went to work in. Eliot came here, Auden went there.

There has been a Henry Jamesian flow, however, a flow against the current as it were. Americans have continued to settle here. What contributions have they made to British culture? Have they been part of the process of Americanizing it? And how has Britain affected them and their work? Are they deracinated?

The Americans in Paris in the 1920s had little or no effect on French culture, except indirectly through people like Gertrude Stein and her patronage of Picasso. At first sight it seems the same with Americans here now. The initial impact was small. They were swallowed up for the most part in the British scene. They have gone native. And individuals who have married English people—talented painter John Hubbard's wife is English—have adopted a protective colouration of semi-Englishness which tends to obscure their origins.

Yet there is a professionalism, a directness, a freshness about American work that is evident, as it is in the painting of John Golding who has a North American (Mexico and Canada) background.

Apart from McCarthy, there has been a steady influx of Americans in the arts to London. Actors like Tony Curtis and Elaine Stritch, artists like R. B. Kitaj, journalists like Dee Wells and Charles Collingwood, arts events organizers like Ed Berman, directors like Sam Wanamaker, and musicians like André Previn and Craig Sheppard—all of whom have made considerable contributions to British cultural life.

Partly what they do is dependent upon their special skills and talents and has nothing to do with their nationality. But for many of them there are several special aspects of their work which are of some significance. In the first place, they are directly in touch with American cultural developments, partly by frequent visits home, and partly by an incessant flood of American visitors. They can interpret American developments against an American background which makes their interpretation far more vivid, and (in a sense) true, than that of a British observer or even participant in the American scene.

The British arts would be considerably poorer without this special contribution. In literature we in Britain are to some extent a province of the English-speaking world, and much (though by no means all) of the most vital work is produced in America. What the Americans say they come here for is a different matter.

A painter I spoke to laid emphasis on the relative peace and quiet here, and on the complexity of ordinary daily life. The overwhelming dominance of a particular life style for any American, whether it be suburban middle-class or way-

out self-conscious Bohemianism, is contrasted with the relatively unpressured free choice in Britain.

A writer agreed with this diagnosis, but added that she did feel "cut off", and regretted the relative lack of professionalism in Britain and, especially, the amateurishness of British editors in publishing and the low incomes earned by British writers.

The excellence of the Royal Ballet attracts dancers, as the high standard of the drama attracts actors. In modern dance the traffic has been almost entirely one way, from America to Britain, and the current triumphant season of the London Contemporary Dance Theatre at Sadler's Wells would be almost inconceivable without American ideas and American dancers.

In short, the concept of dollar imperialism, as applied to the arts, suggests a vigorous two-way traffic, but one where the British have gained considerably. If the analysis is carried over into the popular arts, then the influence of American music, design and language is overwhelming.

Yet it is overwhelming with a difference. Whereas the New York school has had a major impact on the visual arts, for example, the advertising industry has been influenced by a broader spectrum of American vitality, as well as by European ideas. The sales of BBC programmes, which might well be boosted further, give an idea of the extent of possible cultural interchange. The difficulty is that British works of art are almost always seen in America as high culture.

Professor Vaizey is head of the School of Social Sciences, Brunel University. His American wife is art critic of The Sunday Times.

## Time to celebrate

by Kenneth Gosling

There is nothing like a bicentennial, according to Mr Edwin Ball of Washington, for bringing people closer together. He hopes that next year's celebrations will have that effect.

Mr Ball's Washington used to be in co Durham until it was decided to change the boundaries. Today it lies in Tyne and Wear and the alteration has given rise to the difficulty of a loss of identity. "I hope," Mr Ball says, "that the American bicentennial celebrations and our week of festivities next July will more or less give things a push to set everything identified in the Washington New Town area."

Nationally, a new set of initials—BBLC, standing for British Bicentennial Liaison Committee—was conceived three years ago to give effect to plans for the United Kingdom's official committees are at work in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to arrange local activities.

One important project has been devised for Northern Ireland—the Ulster American Exhibition and Folk Park at Campbell, co Tyrone, revolving around the restoration of the ancestral thatched cottage homestead of the Mellon family in Pittsburgh.

What promises to be one of the most spectacular and best-documented of all the exhibitions in Britain is "1776", which will take place at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, from April to October next year.

It is being organized on the same large scale as the Tutankhamun and Chinese exhibitions, which had the same sponsors—The Times and The Sunday Times. It will launch the new west wing of the museum where about 15,000 sq ft of space will be used to portray Britain's war with America.

It will be set out in story form with reconstructions of

famous battles and historical towns, with models, audio-visual techniques, and equipment, manuscripts and drawings, Indian war clubs and tomahawks, a non and drums, naval sails and ships' ornaments.

Set pieces will include replica of a tavern from Williamsburg, a London coffee house of 1776, Admiral Lord Howe's cabin, battlefields models of New York's Yorktown, and the Boston wharveside.

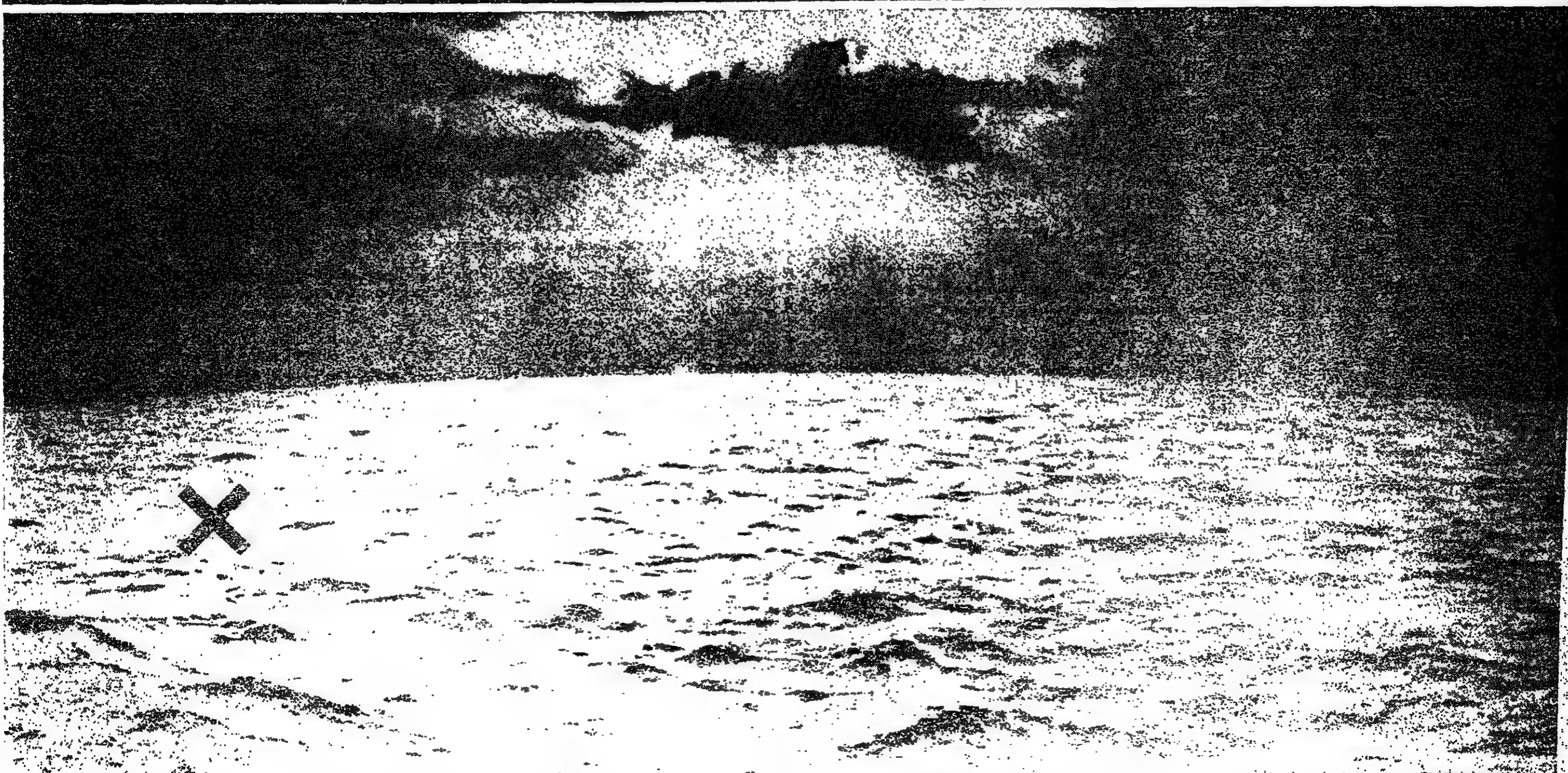
The documents on show will include one of only extant copies of the Declaration of Independence, something of a quid pro quo for the British Government loan of a copy of Magna Carta.

An exhibition which has been four years in the planning will make another major contribution to British celebrations. Ralph Coo, assistant director of the Nelson Gallery of Art in Kansas City, has approached museums, private collectors and the Indian nations: the result will be an Arts Council exhibition of some 70 objects representing 20 years of North American Indian art at the Hayward Gallery in London from next October.

British-American Associates, an education charity, is campaigning to raise half the funds. Four companies already have plans well in hand to make next year a record for American visitors—the various British tour authorities have itineraries arranged to take in sites of special American historic interest, such as the Washington family homes near Durham and Banbury.

Free entry to Washington Old Hall, seat of George Washington's ancestors from 1183 to 1613, will be available until the end of next year to holders of American passports.

The author is Arts Reporter of The Times.



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Yours sincerely,  
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From Professor T. F. Davcney

from Miss Nora Beloff

believe that the House has unanimously repudiated what Miss Nora Claff wrote on Sunday." (Hansard.

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## The rule of law

from Mr H. H. Mainorice

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the law. Since this has been

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ecember 9.

## Russia and Angola

## Arab refugees

Sir, In his article (*The Times*, November 28) Said Hammami

Mayor of the City Council, as Vice-Mayor, and also for lengthy periods as Acting Mayor of Haifa. My work

Before 1948, during the period of

consider an initiative to save Angola from the Soviets and perhaps by so

## Somalia

*From the Ambassador of the Somali*

British officials; and since 1948, as an Israeli citizen, diplomat, and member of the Knesset. I have

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Norfolk.  
December 7.

to open negotiations without loss of honour.

women : for example, that the law requires a married woman to wear

these pronouns have no equivalent word to describe the other sex, and others such as *huwagang* and its

to Gerard Manley Hopkins in Poets' Corner on Monday. Philip Howard wrote of this ecumenical and

and Victorian (Sir John Betjeman  
please note) than that?  
Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD PICKERING,  
Holborn Circus. EC1.







problems for  
engineering  
nions on pay, p16

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

What's good  
enough for  
Ford...  
Peter Jay, p19

### Chrysler's reply awaited after Government sets stringent investment terms

Maurice Corina  
Kenneth Owen

that the future of  
York UK may be secured  
closer integration with its  
French counterpart,  
which makes Simca cars, were  
yesterday by Mr Eric  
Varley, Secretary of State for  
Industry.

Mr Varley said in Manchester  
"a Government announcement  
"may well be made" in  
Commons later today. A  
statement depended on discus-  
sions in London and in the  
of the Chrysler Corpora-  
tion of America, which was  
being in New York last night  
receive a report on negotia-  
tions from Mr John Riccardo,  
chairman.

What the Government would  
say to say now depended on  
Riccardo. Mr Varley said  
a Government had put pro-  
posals to him and he had put  
responses to the Government.  
Varley added: "We wait  
for his response."

The discussions with Chrysler  
had been based on securing the  
of those working in Britain  
in a manner that would main-  
tain the longer term outlook of  
a company. The Government  
did not enter into an in-  
vestment when there was not  
a prospect of long-term  
stability. This would be putting  
one down the drain.

It seems clear that, following  
Thursday's Cabinet meet-  
ing, where Mr William Ross,  
Secretary of State for Scotland,  
discussed his strong opposition  
to the proposed policy for  
Chrysler, the Government have

put together a much more  
extensive and expensive  
programme for saving jobs at  
Chrysler UK and have offered  
it to Mr Riccardo.

The requirement in return is  
that the parent Chrysler Cor-  
poration should commit itself  
to the industrial future of its  
British subsidiary to a far  
greater extent than was  
involved in the undertakings  
given when first bought con-  
trol of Rootes, now Chrysler  
UK.

The proposal seems to centre  
on undertakings from Chrysler  
about production and export  
levels for the future, in return  
for extensive Government  
involvement and support.  
The company's operations in  
this country.

Asked whether there was a  
future for both British Leyland  
and Chrysler UK on something  
like their present scale, Mr  
Varley replied that one had to  
think of the economies of scale,  
and how a multinational com-  
pany with a British subsidiary  
integrated that subsidiary into  
its international network. If  
they did not do this, there  
could be problems. Ford Motor  
already did something along  
these lines.

In connection with Chrysler,  
he thought it was plain that  
there had to be strong links  
between Britain and the rest of  
Europe where there were existing  
links with Chrysler's European  
operations and there would  
have to be continuing similar  
links in the future.

Mr Varley's comments come  
after Mr Riccardo's latest  
round of intensive talks in  
Whitehall, preceded by a visit

to Chrysler France last week.  
The head of Chrysler France,  
which is a successful self-  
sustaining company, has  
offered to help Chrysler UK  
raise its European sales but is  
sharply critical of the British  
company's "irregular supply,  
failure to respect export order  
programmes, and excessive price  
increases".

British and French engineers  
collaborated in designing the  
new Alpine car, soon to come  
to Britain from French as-  
sembly lines.

There has been strong  
speculation that new work for  
Linwood might take the form  
of a British version of the  
Alpine, to replace the Hunter,  
while the Ryton plant could be  
re-equipped with a face-lifted  
Aventador.

Such a plan will require some  
transitional financial support  
from the American parent and  
the Government.  
Whether such a scheme  
offers long-term profitability  
to justify the necessary bank-  
ing guarantees and staged lend-  
ing to exercising Cabinet unity to  
the full, Mr Riccardo is said  
to have been cooperative in  
finding a formula but makes no  
secret of his worries that assu-  
rances are needed about labour  
practices.

Yesterday it was learned that  
Datsun UK, the successful  
Japanese importers, had  
received approaches from about  
40 Chrysler dealers.

Some negotiations are pro-  
gressing, but most of the  
approaches are being turned  
down as Datsun will be  
restraining sales levels in 1976  
and adjusting price levels.

### Venesta chief to go after £3m loss

By Margaret Walters

A rescue attempt has been  
mounted at Venesta Inter-  
national, the timber group  
headed by Mr David Rowland,  
after £3m losses sustained by  
its French subsidiary.

Venesta shares were suspended  
at 21p on the Stock  
Exchange at the group's re-  
quest and a circular has been  
sent to shareholders revealing  
that Mr Rowland has agreed to  
step down as chairman at the  
group's forthcoming annual  
general meeting.

Last April, Mr Rowland be-  
came chairman of Williams  
Hudson, the transport and dis-  
tribution company that controls  
47 per cent of Venesta. Mr Row-  
land, in turn, controls 44 per  
cent of the equity of Williams  
Hudson through a Bahamas-  
based company, Argo Carib-  
bean. And since Williams Hud-  
son will be involved in the  
Venesta reconstruction scheme  
on account of a £2.1m loan it  
has outstanding with the com-

pany, Mr Rowland is resigning  
to avoid a possible conflict of  
interest.

Yesterday's statement said  
that Venesta's United Kingdom  
subsidiaries have remained  
profitable, despite the disasters  
in France. Delayed annual ac-  
counts for the last financial  
year, expected in a few days,  
show that United Kingdom  
operating companies produced  
a trading profit of £13.3m. But  
the Venesta group is, curi-  
ously, in breach of its borrow-  
ing limits.

Trading losses at Lutetia, the  
French subsidiary, amounted  
to £4m, exclusive of group  
expenses and finance charges  
of another £2m. In addition,  
there was a capital loss of  
£2.2m on the disposal of some  
subsidiaries.

Yesterday's statement refers  
to major acquisitions financed  
by short term bank borrowings  
and "a seriously adverse effect  
on working capital and cash  
flow" when the demand for  
timber and plywood products

collapsed in France in the  
autumn of 1973.  
Mr Rowland is understood  
that Hambros, a creditor of  
Venesta, is no longer acting as  
the group's advisor.

Other bankers to the group  
are Barclays, the National Wes-  
minster and Societe Generale,  
according to the group's last  
accounts, which show total  
borrowings of around £10m.

Yesterday's statement discloses  
that United Kingdom banks  
do not intend to disturb the  
existing level of United King-  
dom facilities. These will con-  
tinue on normal banking terms  
while awaiting reorganization  
proposals which will be avail-  
able before the end of January.

Shares of Williams Hudson  
dropped 2p to 15p. The group  
has already completely written  
off its investment in Venesta,  
which originally cost some  
£3.7m.

It is unclear what course of  
action will be taken over the  
French losses, £4.2m of the  
losses are to French banks.  
Arrangements have, however,  
been made to reduce Lutetia's  
liabilities. One of its sub-  
sidiaries, Eignand, was forced  
into a form of receivership,  
while another, Piraule-France,  
which required a cash injection,  
reverted to its former owner.  
Yesterday's statement says  
"Every effort continues to be  
made to minimize the costs of  
the remaining French  
business."

Mr Rowland, who has been  
backed in the past by interests  
associated with Sir Isaac  
Wolfson, has recently returned  
to his residence in the  
United Kingdom after tax exile  
in Paris for some years. He  
will be concentrating full time  
on Williams Hudson. The new  
Venesta chairman is expected  
to be announced at the group's  
annual general meeting on  
December 31.

### W Midlands employers in campaign on jobless

By Our Midlands Industrial  
Correspondent

With unemployment in the  
West Midlands already higher  
than in some of the assisted  
regions, and fears of more to  
come from Chrysler and other  
motor companies, employers  
and unions are mounting a cam-  
paign to persuade the Govern-  
ment to drop restrictive  
industrial development con-  
trols.

In a strongly worded state-  
ment yesterday, Dr David Atter-  
ton, President of Birmingham  
Chamber of Industry and Com-  
merce, said: "This year has  
seen more people without jobs  
in the West Midlands than in  
the whole of Scotland."

"The official reaction in the  
past has been that percentage  
unemployment is more signifi-  
cant than numbers unemployed."

"In that case, how does the  
Government react to the latest  
figures? They show that the  
West Midlands has for the past  
six months had more jobless  
and higher percentage unem-  
ployment than Yorkshire and  
Humberside—one of the  
assisted regions."

He said the overall figure  
disguised the crisis facing Bir-  
mingham, Coventry and other  
West Midlands cities. One in  
every 10 adult male might be  
without a job at Christmas, and  
the problems facing Chrysler  
and other large companies  
could make the position even  
worse.

Despite ministers' assurances  
to Midlands MPs, the Depart-  
ment of Industry had confirmed  
that it was still the Govern-  
ment's policy to discriminate  
against the West Midlands in  
favour of assisted areas. British  
and foreign companies from  
outside the region would still  
be discouraged from coming in.

Dr Atterton said it was  
accepted that there was a  
problem of unemployment in  
the West Midlands, but that  
social and unemployment prob-  
lems than Birmingham and  
Coventry, but they also had the  
benefit of substantial cash in-  
jections for new industrial  
development.

### Industry orders 'picking up'

By Malcolm Brown

Confirmation that the recession  
in manufacturing industry  
is slowing down was given  
yesterday in the latest monthly  
trends inquiry from the Con-  
federation of British Industry.  
The inquiry which complements  
the major quarterly survey  
carried out by the CBI indi-  
cates that, for the first time  
this year, as many firms re-  
ported an increase as those  
which reported a fall in the  
value of total new orders over  
the last four months.

The survey, carried out in  
the middle two weeks of Nov-  
ember, also discloses what it  
describes as a "less unfavour-  
able" position for export  
orders.

A CBI spokesman said that  
there were just a few more  
signs, particularly at the lighter  
end of industry, that things  
were picking up a bit. But there  
was, he added, no need to go  
"over the moon". Things had  
reached a very low level.

### Bank spells out need for caution in approach to reflation

By Melvyn Westlake

Britain would wait for the  
general upturn in world econ-  
omic activity, even though this  
may be several months away,  
rather than risk losing the  
opportunity of an export-led  
expansion by an early stimu-  
lation of domestic demand.

The broad message in the  
latest Bank of England  
Quarterly Bulletin, published  
this morning.

In past cycles, the Bank says,  
failure to allow for the expan-  
sionary forces already in  
progress has led to a "serious  
and unduly action" being taken  
to stimulate the economy in a re-  
covery phase.

Although couched in the  
usual oblique language, this  
concerns the Bank is now  
convinced that sufficient  
stimulative forces are already  
in the pipeline.

The Bank's own assessments  
indicate that a recovery is now  
on the way—slow at first, but  
gathering momentum by the  
end of the year.

The reasons why expansion  
is likely to be slow in the first  
half of 1976 are, first, that the  
rundown of stocks still appears  
to have some way to go; and,  
second, that the recovery in the  
United States and Japan estab-  
lished trend, the turning point  
for Europe (which accounts for  
a third of our exports) is only  
beginning to appear.

The Bank says that when the

recent unprecedented decline  
in stockbuilding has run its  
course and gives place to posi-  
tive stockbuilding, as is likely  
next year, "this will itself be  
enough to produce significant  
expansion in output and em-  
ployment."

Furthermore, when economic  
recovery abroad becomes more  
generalized, experience suggests  
that the markets for our exports  
could expand by 10 per cent  
a year in volume terms, and  
possibly by more.

However, at another point in  
the Bulletin, the Bank says that  
the outlook for British exports  
may be less promising during  
the coming upswing than in  
previous periods of recovery.  
This is partly because growth  
in Continental Western Europe  
may be less rapid than in the  
past.

In addition, while imports by  
oil-exporting countries are  
expected to continue to grow  
fast, other developing countries  
will have little scope for any  
increase in their imports. Not-  
withstanding this, the Bank of  
England still believes that the  
overall prospect is that demand  
for British exports will begin  
to recover in 1976.

There is some optimism about  
the prospect for the pay policy.  
The Bank sees earnings from  
employment increasing at an  
average of rather less than 5  
per cent a month in coming

months, reducing the year-on-  
year increase to less than 10  
per cent by the end of the year  
and to about 15 per cent, or  
possibly less, by the spring of  
1976.

This compares with levels of  
over 30 per cent earlier this  
year.  
However, prices may well rise  
faster in the immediate future  
than the comparatively low  
annual rate of 10 per cent,  
which was seen in the third  
quarter, suggesting that real  
pre-tax earnings will decline in  
the last three months of this  
year (as they did in the second  
quarter).

The Bank also returns to its  
persistent theme about the need  
to reduce public expenditure. It  
says that unless spending by the  
Government is contained, the  
only way to reduce the public  
sector borrowing requirement  
would be by a considerable in-  
crease in the already high tax  
burden.

The Bank confirms the widely  
held view that the borrowing  
requirement will be higher than  
predicted in the last Budget.

In the first half of the cur-  
rent financial year the Central  
Government borrowing require-  
ment was at a seasonally ad-  
justed £4,600m, suggesting a total  
for the year of £9,200m com-  
pared with the forecast of  
£7,800m.

In addition, local authority  
spending is also likely to be  
higher than expected.

### Paris talks prepare way on monetary reform

From David Elake

Paris, Dec 10

Officials from the 10 leading  
non-Communist industrial  
nations meet in Paris tomorrow  
to discuss world monetary  
reform and the plight of the  
developing world.

The officials are meeting to  
prepare next week's ministerial  
session of the Group of Ten,  
also to be held in Paris. They  
will discuss two elements of  
monetary reform which have to  
be worked out in time for the  
forthcoming session of the Inter-  
national Monetary Fund Interim  
Committee, to be held in  
January in January.

These topics are the future  
policy towards exchange rates  
and the possible calling off of  
some of the IMF's stocks of  
gold.

At tomorrow's meeting, both  
France and the United States  
are likely to be asked for  
clarification on the secret  
agreement reached between  
them at the Rambouillet sum-  
mit in November.

This compromise between  
President Ford of the United  
States and President Giscard  
d'Estaing of France ended  
months of acrimony about the  
extent to which currency should  
be allowed to fluctuate in value.

### Healey call to banks on loans for industry

By Christopher Wilkins

Mr Denis Healey, the Chan-  
cellor of the Exchequer, yester-  
day urged British banks to raise  
the proportion of secured  
medium-term debt in the finance  
which they provide for industry.

Speaking at a conference on  
world banking, organized by  
The Financial Times and The  
Banker, Mr Healey said that an  
increase in medium-term lend-  
ing would mean that the banks  
would have to take a longer  
view of a company's prospects

and the profitability of invest-  
ments. In this way, he said, they  
would become more closely in-  
volved with industrial manage-  
ment and performance.

"The banks in Britain, as in  
some other countries, might  
play more of a role in the eval-  
uation and appraisal of invest-  
ment plans", Mr Healey said.  
"They are in a good position to  
do this through the continuing  
contacts of industry with the  
customers of industry."

"I am sure that if we were to  
see the banks doing more to

provide medium-term finance,  
industry would benefit from the  
banks' financial expertise, and  
the banks themselves would im-  
prove their ability to assess the  
risks and prospects presented to  
them."

He thought that at present  
investment was not being held  
back by shortage of funds. As a  
result of the measures taken in  
the last two Budgets—particu-  
larly the generous relief for  
stock appreciation—the finan-  
cial position of companies  
showed a marked improvement.

At the same time the avail-  
ability of external funds had  
been increased by the upsurge  
in high level of personal savings,  
the revival of the stock market  
and the operation of the  
enlarged Finance for Industry.

Referring to the argument  
that the relationship between  
the banks and industry should  
be closer and deeper than in  
the past, Mr Healey said that,  
despite recent developments,  
British banks were still largely  
concerned with short-term  
finance for industry.

### Leyland freeze cost assessed

By Clifford Webb

Machine tool manufacturers  
and motor equipment suppliers  
aid yesterday that they did  
not expect any serious reper-  
cussions from Leyland Cars  
decision to put a halt to capital  
investment.

The head of one of the large  
machine tool companies  
said: "We should be much  
more worried if British Ley-  
land's Truck and Bus Company  
died. They are setting the  
pace in machine tool orders,  
be business being placed by  
Leyland Cars is still only a  
"flick."

Tube Investments machine  
division said that the four-  
month standstill being enforced  
by Leyland could push its  
orders down the delivery queue  
when they tried to turn the tap  
again.

But Mr Derek Whitaker,  
managing director of Leyland  
Cars, postpones deliveries al-  
ready in the pipeline he will be  
cited with demands for higher  
prices. Some machine tool  
users suggest as much as 8  
per cent more.

His need for cash is immedi-  
ate. Leyland is now trading at  
bigger loss than in December,  
74, when the Government  
stepped in to rescue BL from

bankruptcy. Of the £200m BL  
received from the Government  
in September it is understood  
that more than £120m was used  
immediately to settle debts and  
reduce bank overdrafts.

Leyland Cars probably re-  
ceived between £40m and £50m  
of the remainder.

Commenting on British Ley-  
land yesterday after opening a  
computing centre in Man-  
chester, Mr Varley, Secretary  
for Industry, said he thought  
the organization and manage-  
ment of British Leyland was  
best left to the management  
of the company, and that they  
should report to the National  
Enterprise Board.

The Government was just as  
interested in ensuring the  
viability of British Leyland.

One thing we could not go  
on doing, he said, was losing  
production. We had lost about  
50 per cent while our Euro-  
pean competitors lost prac-  
tically none at all.

The most likely area in which  
immediate capital savings can  
be made is internal develop-  
ment spending on such projects  
as the new Mini plant, now  
launching in 1978-79 and the  
new "Q" series of overhead  
cranes, alloy-headed engines.  
Work on these has reached an

advanced stage, with a produc-  
tion date in 1977.

The new Executive saloon—  
code-named ST1—is too far  
along the road for worthwhile  
capital cuts to be made. Pro-  
duction runs have begun at  
the new Solihull factory.

There was a two-hour stop-  
page on the M60 motorway at  
Leyland's car assembly plant at  
Coley yesterday—less than 24  
hours after appeals from Lord  
Ryder, chairman of the Nation-  
al Enterprise Board, and Mr  
Derek Whitaker, managing  
director of Leyland Cars, for  
fewer disputes and stoppages.

Marina output was halted for  
two hours by a stoppage by 140  
internal drivers in support of  
the complaints by one of their  
shop stewards, Mr Peter Boyles,  
over his omission from the list  
of candidates for the election of  
the seven deputy senior  
stewards for the Transport and  
General Workers' Union.

Later Mr David Buckle, the  
union's district secretary said  
Mr Boyles would be included on  
fresh ballot papers and that the  
elections would be held as soon  
as possible.

Mr Boyles had complained  
that his nomination form had  
been lost, found and then lost  
again.

### Ruling on BOC upheld by JS Trade Commission

By Our Financial Staff

The United States Federal  
Trade Commission has agreed  
with the finding of its admini-  
strative law judge that BOC  
International (formerly British  
Oxygen) should divest itself of  
a 35 per cent holding in Airco  
in an industrial gases concern.  
Announcing this in New  
York last night, a year after its  
original ruling by the judge,  
IACO said that it would issue a  
statement after reviewing the  
TC decision.

BOC International has already  
said that, should the FTC con-  
firm the ruling, it would appeal  
the United Kingdom group would  
appeal to the American courts.  
In the meantime it would main-  
tain representation on Airco's  
board.

BOC acquired its interest in  
Airco in December, 1973, via  
BOC Financial Corporation, a  
subsidiary, and in his annual  
report last year Mr Leslie  
Smith, BOC International chair-  
man, said the board viewed the  
investment as "an important  
part of our defensive strategy".

### Wealth tax reports

continued from page 1

statement of unquoted com-  
panies and unincorporated busi-  
nesses, to the need for a ceiling  
in the combined burden of in-  
come and wealth taxes, and to  
the exemption of pension rights  
from the tax.

In the Green Paper it was  
suggested that the wealth tax  
on unquoted companies should  
be deferred if payment would  
require the sale of productive  
assets. This solution was re-  
jected by the committee.

The Green Paper proposed  
that pension rights should be  
exempt from the tax. The com-  
mittee agreed, however, that it  
would be unfair to exempt pen-  
sion rights and to tax other  
forms of pension. Mr Jay had  
been therefore suggested that  
pension rights be taxed at a  
reduced rate.

Mr Robert Cooke, chairman  
of the sub-committee which  
looked at the national heritage,  
said yesterday that if there had  
been a wealth tax—and I think  
the whole thing is Alice  
in Wonderland when the nation  
is on its knees—then the  
chairman's report embodied the  
major things the Conserva-  
tives had tried to achieve.  
"If the Government were to  
go on the broad lines of the  
final version of the Jay report,  
then the future of the national  
heritage could be assured at no

cost to the public", he said.  
"The public gets a good bargain,  
the owners have a look  
after their own art, provid-  
ing reasonable access, and  
the state does not have to buy  
them."

"I would not think any of  
the proposals which emerge in  
the report would result in an  
upheaval of the art market,  
in the context of the Govern-  
ment's insistence on introducing  
the tax. I would think this is  
the best deal we could get for  
the heritage."

Mr Cooke said any remaining  
doubts about the rescue of historic  
houses and all the things in  
them had to do with the sweep-  
ing of privilege had been swept  
away "by the really awful  
plight of people owning historic  
buildings today". Mr Jay had  
been basically sympathetic  
about the problems of the  
national heritage.

There was no intention of  
having a "Spanish inquisition"  
of people with articles worth  
more than £1,000—they would  
be relied on to declare them all  
in their tax returns. They had all,  
Mr Cooke said, been seized of  
the problem that if the tax was  
inhuman or inhumane there  
would be a complete collapse of  
tax morality.

The Jay report, as amended,  
was the Gowers Report up to  
date.

### Lord Beswick outlines aerospace task

Lord Beswick, chairman  
designate of the United King-  
dom nationalized aerospace  
industry, said yesterday that  
the British Aerospace Corpora-  
tion's most difficult planning  
problem would be civil aircraft.

"But the urgency has been  
taken out of that to some  
extent by virtue of the fact that  
civil airlines are not ready to  
order", he said in an inter-  
view with Reuters.

Lord Beswick said he would  
not like to try to foresee when  
a decision on civil aircraft  
would be taken. But it would  
be the job of the interim com-  
mittee set up to prepare for  
nationalization to ensure that  
the necessary planning con-  
tinued.

There would be no planning  
gap between now and vesting  
day, and discussion would con-  
tinue with possible European  
partners.

"It is absolute rubbish to say  
that contacts with private  
foreign companies will be  
broken because of nationaliza-  
tion", Lord Beswick said.

The aerospace industry  
needed rationalization, but not  
only in the United Kingdom.  
"I am not going to be forced  
into a corner where I say all  
our ills can be healed by getting  
rid of men. There is too much  
emphasis on redundancies.  
There is big business to be had  
and we have to find the men  
work", he said.

The Government's Aircraft  
and Shipbuilding Industries  
Bill will nationalize four aer-  
ospace companies—British Air-  
craft Corporation, Hawker  
Siddley Aviation, Hawker  
Siddley Dynamics and Scottish  
Aviation.

The new corporation will  
have tight executive control  
from vesting day onwards, but  
there will not be a large staff  
at the centre.

Lord Beswick said his per-  
sonal view was that there  
should be a high-powered chief  
executive and board coupled  
with a large measure of decentral-  
ization, and industrial  
democracy.

### How the markets moved

Rises

Baker Perkins	3p to 53p
Glaxo Heigis	5p to 36p
Hawker Siddeley	4p to 31p
Imp Chem Ind	4p to 31p
Int Computers	1p to 90p
Jardine Matheson	11p to 36p
NSS News	3p to 58p

Falls

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## Ford fight with Congress nears climax

From Frank Vogel

Washington, Dec. 10.—President Ford told leading Republican Party congressmen today that he is still determined to veto tax-cutting legislation unless Congress passes a resolution to reduce government spending. The tax battle, which is now reaching a climax, is likely to have both important political and economic consequences.

The President called Republican Party leaders to the White House today to plan strategy to ensure that his veto of the Tax Bill will not be overridden by a two-thirds majority of the Congress.

Today's meeting followed a Senate Finance Committee hearing yesterday where it became clear that the Democrats in the Congress will floutly reject Mr Ford's proposals and go ahead with a simple Bill that extends the 1975 tax cuts into 1976 and that contains no provisions for spending cuts.

Senator Russell Long, chairman of the committee, maintains that an increase in taxes will have a "negligible" economic impact.

Democrats charge that President Ford is playing politics with the tax issue by insisting on tax cuts in January and spending cuts only next October, which would be too late to have an impact on people before November's Presidential election.

The Democrats maintain that it is a violation of tradition for a President to set a ceiling on government spending—Mr Ford wants a \$395,000 (about £197,500) ceiling for fiscal year 1977—before the President has presented his annual budget, which is not due until late January.

Mr Simon argues that it is essential that the Congress take steps to end "years of fiscal irresponsibility" and that no tax cuts should be allowed without spending cuts. At stake are taxes of about \$14,500m (£7,500m) which is not a large sum compared to the size of the national economy, but which will have an important psychological impact.

Even some Republicans in the Congress admit that the economic recovery now under way depends on a continuing rise in consumer confidence and that tax increases in January could well diminish confidence, reduce consumption, lead companies to delay new plant and equipment expenditures and so jeopardize the recovery.

### Opel to recruit 2,300

Adem Opel AG said yesterday that higher domestic and export demand means it will need to take on 2,300 workers in the first half of 1976, and introduce eight special Saturday shifts at its plant at Reesheim in the first quarter of next year.

The West German subsidiary of General Motors said 800 of the recruits are needed in January.

## Vote for £6 policy sets engineering unions problems in framing claims

By R. W. Shakespeare

Engineering union leaders who meet in York today will face the immensely complicated task of deciding how to frame a new national pay claim covering the industry's 2½ million workers within the terms of the Government's £6 a week pay policy.

Although a major challenge to the policy itself has now been averted, because the biggest of the engineering unions, the AUEW, has changed its mind and decided to accept the £6 ceiling, the 19-union strong Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions still faces the most complicated set of wage negotiations in its history.

The trouble stems from the two-tier system of wage bargaining in engineering. The national executive of the confederation is responsible for negotiating national agreements on wages and conditions with the Engineering Employers' Federation, which represents some 5,000 different companies. However, most of these companies also have machinery for separate wage bargaining, over and above the national minimum rates, with union and shopfloor representatives at company or plant level.

So far the confederation executive has been marking time on what to do about its next national claim. This was largely to give the AUEW time to sort out its own attitude towards the Government/TUC strategy.

Originally the AUEW's policy-making national committee was firmly opposed to the £6 limit but on Monday—after some significant political swings within the union leadership—a reconvened national committee conference voted by 32 to 20 to support the Government's policy.

Today therefore, the confederation executive must make some positive decision. The present national agreement in engineering runs out early next year. It was a three-stage deal which lifted basic rates right across the industry by £10 a week. The first £4 of this was paid last April, another £4 in November and the final £2 will be paid in February.

Problems over any future national settlement are complicated by a number of factors stemming from the national wage policy.

First, many engineering workers get no actual cash benefit from the increases in basic

rates, because they already earned more than the new minimums, while others do. Secondly, many groups of workers have had increases through company and plant level deals which have nothing to do with the national agreement.

Thirdly, these plant agreements all have different terminal dates. These things all make it extremely difficult to judge how to apply the rulings that no worker must have more than a £6 a week increase and that no worker must have more than one increase in a 12-month period.

The confederation has already asked the TUC for guidance on how it should approach its new wage claim. The TUC reply was not very helpful. It did little more than spell out the terms of the wages policy and suggest that each case would have to be judged separately.

The most likely course for the confederation executive to adopt today seems to be to agree simply to submit a claim to the employers for "a substantial increase" in basic rates and then to sort out the details in direct negotiations with the EEF leaders.

## Commission against steel import controls

Brussels, Dec. 10.—Informed sources said the EEC Commission has decided against imposing steel import restrictions or minimum prices, at least for the time being.

Instead, it will set up an import surveillance scheme which will still leave the option of minimum prices open. Any other method of curtailing imports, such as quotas, is no longer under serious discussion.

Commission experts feel that the EEC steel industry recession is now over the worst, but they will be closely watching the level of Japanese shipments since the decision by Japan's steelmakers voluntarily to restrict some exports.

Imports from east Europe and Spain will also be under inspection as these are two other areas suspected of dumping steel on the Community market at less than domestic prices, the sources said.

The Commission will suggest that the nine EEC countries aim at total raw steel production of around 30 million tonnes for the first 1976 quarter, about the same as output expected in the first 1975 quarter.—Reuter.

## Pellet plant for private steel will cost £50m

By Peter Hill

Private sector steelmakers are expected shortly to complete their plans for the construction of an iron pellet-making plant to feed their steelmaking plants.

The scheme has been under detailed study for two years and has been coordinated through the British Independent Steel Producers Association (BISPA).

The cost of the project, which involves the erection of plant to reduce iron ore to pellet form for feeding directly into electric arc furnaces for producing steel, and so eliminating the blast furnace, is put at about £50m.

Three BISPA companies are closely involved in the studies. They are GKN, Dunford Radfield and Shearwater Steel, and it is understood that discussions have now reached an advanced stage.

Three sites have been studied as a possible location for the direct reduction plant. These are Loughborough on the south bank of the Humber, where the British Steel Corporation already has an ore and coal pier and terminal linked to its steelworks at Scunthorpe, with other possible sites being in South Wales and on the north-east coast at Hartlepool.

The concern of the private sector companies is to safeguard their supplies of raw materials against the background of the difficulties as a result of shortages of scrap—used as the feed for electric arc furnaces—and shortfalls in deliveries.

Studies have concentrated on building a direct reduction plant capable of producing about 1 million tons of pellets a year, which represents about 25 per cent of the total scrap requirements of the private sector.

## Sugar rise cost UK extra £35m

By Hugh Clayton

Britain paid almost £35.5m last year in price increases to supply of sugar, according to the Sugar Board reported yesterday. The board said in its seventeenth annual report that the main feature of trading last year was the phenomenal rise in the world market price.

That had caused mounting dissatisfaction among exporting countries with prices agreed under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement. The board makes it clear in the report that the British Government had to raise the price twice during the year to attract adequate amounts of Commonwealth sugar.

Prices at the start of the year ranged from £50 to £61 a ton, but by October they had risen to £140 for final shipments from seven countries.

Now that the Commonwealth agreement has been succeeded by Community arrangements for administering British sugar supplies, the board's main task is to operate the scheme to equalize prices of cane and beet sugar.

That task will be taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture when the board is abolished. The board said yesterday that its remaining tasks should be completed by the middle of next year.

### Deliveries of colour TV sets down 31pc

Deliveries of colour TV sets to British retailers continued to fall in October. The 15,000 sets had risen from around 43 per cent to 52 per cent in just over 12 months.

Monsoon, the American-owned fibres and chemicals group, yesterday announced increases, from the beginning of next month, for acrylic fibre, averaging 8-10 per cent.

## Gatt trade talks compromise

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, Dec. 10. A procedural compromise on agricultural products in the Tokyo round of trade liberalization negotiations was reached today by the United States and the European Community.

Mr Olivier Long, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, told the 80-nation trade negotiations committee that the compromise, while a "major step", should enable work to proceed.

The two days of talks between United States and Community delegates provide for bilateral and multilateral consultations in conjunction with exchange of information between other negotiating groups, including those dealing with tariffs and safeguards, on the subject of agriculture.

The Tokyo round agricultural group, deadlocked since the summer, is now working on a compromise. The United States with other main exporters such as Canada, Australia and New Zealand, maintains that agriculture should be treated on the same basis as industrial products.

The Community position is that, because of its socio-economic importance, agriculture must be treated as something apart.

### £6.3m loan for BR

British Rail has been granted a £6.3m loan by the European Investment Bank, the EEC's long-term finance institution. The loan—at 9½ per cent interest over eight years—will help to finance construction of 2,050 special wagons for British Rail's "merry-go-round" coal-hauling operation.

Special trains carry each about 1,000 tons of coal direct from the mines to power stations in an almost continuous cycle. Each train has about 50 wagons designed for rapid overhauling at the collieries.

## Caledonian voices fears on civil aviation review

By Arthur Reed

Fears that a government review of civil aviation would result in British Caledonian having to give up possible developments of routes were expressed yesterday by Mr Adam Thomson, chairman of the private sector airline.

Mr Thomson was addressing a meeting of MPs in London, and his remarks were seen by the aviation industry as a late attempt to influence the outcome of the review, the results of which are to be announced shortly by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade.

The BCAL board are deeply worried that Mr Shore will carry through his intention, stated in July, to end "dual designation"—two British airlines flying in competition on long distance routes.

Mr Thomson told his audience that virtually all of his airline's forward development plans were centred on routes licences lawfully obtained from the Civil Aviation Authority, including Adana and Houston, to which no other British airline flew.

Mr Shore had decided that BCAL should have a sphere of influence based on its west African and South American services, and that there should be a "limited exchange" of routes with British Airways.

To further these aims, the minister arranged discussions between the two airlines, chaired jointly by a civil servant and Mr Robin Goodson, deputy chairman of the CAA. The talks had produced little by way of agreement.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Control in industry: advantages of an employee shareholding trust

From Mr D. W. Bell

Sir, Your Economics Editor, Peter Jay, suggests (December 5) that the only solution to our economic ills may be for the ownership and ultimate control of enterprises to be vested in the people employed by them. He may be right, but it is not something that can happen overnight.

There are, however, steps that we can take in this direction even now, and without the change in company law that he proposes. A part share in ownership can give employees "the owner's eye", and by voting rights, a share in control.

There is already enough experience both to point the way forward, and to avoid the snags. Individual employee shareholding is fraught with problems. An employee's money invested in the company he works for is double risk capital—if things go wrong, he may as a stroke lose both his job and his savings. Are all employee shareholders equal, or are some more equal than others? What happens when the employee leaves? And if the company is doing well, paradoxically there may be an incentive to leave, in order to cash in on the increased share price.

An alternative, proved by experience to be more effective, is collective shareholding through an employee trust. Ultimately the trust may control the enterprise, either as the sole owner, or as majority shareholder. The John Lewis Partnership, and Kalamazoo, are good examples.

But even if it is only a minority shareholder, an employee trust gives a real sense of participation in ownership, the employee's voice is heard in general meetings, and the trust can be a natural vehicle for the appointment of employee directors, who then sit on the board not in a conflict situation, but representing their fellow workers both as employees and as shareholders.

Employee trusts can be established in the first instance on a quite small scale, and their shareholding gradually built up. The Chancellor

could make this easier than at present if he would put employee trusts in the same position as charitable trusts in relation to capital transfer tax.

And why not the NEB and the IFC put some of the money that they provide into employee trusts, rather than the equity they purchase being held by an impersonal state corporation? No employee has any sense of sharing in ownership because some of the shares in the company he works for are held by the state.

Another important point is that employee ownership, in whatever form, must not make a shambles of management. In this, the collective trust has the edge over both the cooperative, and situations in which each individual employee has a voice in general meetings. The trust can speak with one voice, and its aim is the long term prosperity of the enterprise, which is the only context in which the end employee interests are safeguarded.

D. WALLACE BELL, Director, Industrial Participation Association, 25/28 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LP.

From Mr P. G. Drazin

Sir, If Peter Jay has found "the only potentially acceptable alternative" (December 5) to improve our economy then the outlook is black indeed.

An entrepreneur knows, or at any rate used to know, that he can dispose of the assets of his enterprise when and how he pleases, in life or death. Secure in that knowledge, he is not pressed to convert capital into income. Rather he is encouraged to promote the interest of himself and his heirs in the long term.

The aim of a nationalised enterprise should be to promote the interests of the people as a whole, not just those of its current employees. Under socialism all vital enterprises should be run by the state in this way for the long term welfare of the whole nation, not just the transient interests of each set of employees.

### Information sought for 'bank records'

From Mr M. J. Walker

Sir, Three days ago I was asked by a leading bank to say whether a young friend of mine is a suitable person to whom the usual banking facilities could be accorded. I replied recommending the young man and mentioned, as an indication of my status, that I was the headmaster of a fairly large secondary school. I also said, in reply to a question, that I banked with the Midland. No stamped addressed envelope was provided for my reply.

Today I have received a handwritten note on a "with compliments" slip asking for the full address of my bank "so that we can complete our records"—again without an envelope for my reply. This request was unsigned.

I was not seeking facilities for myself. I was being asked, as a person of standing, for information about a friend. Why should I have to provide, for the purpose of some secret record and at my own expense, information about my own banking habits, and which can have no bearing on my opinion of a young man I have known since boyhood. I am worried about the buildup of private records about me in this way.

May I add that the clerk who wrote to me failed to provide the name and address of his personal bankers so that I might "complete my records"? Yours obediently, M. J. WALKER, "Brentfield House", Brentfield Road, Daresbury, Cheshire DA1 1TT, December 5.

### Engineers' salaries

From Mr Andrew Bond

Sir, Your correspondent Mr Nicholson (November 28) refers to the New Civil Engineer's finding that salaries for engineers in the private sector compare extremely unfavourably with those of their colleagues in local government.

An article in the October issue of *Process Engineering* under the title "Who wants to be an engineer?" compared engineers' salaries, and particularly those of the much in demand chemical engineers, with those of professions for which the length and demanding nature of the training are comparable.

It appears that on qualification an engineer can expect to earn less than solicitors, accountants and, of interest in view of the present situation in the NHS, doctors at an equivalent stage in their careers. This differential can be up to 40 per cent and, by the time the engineer is in his middle-thirties, he has grown to as much as 75 per cent. Furthermore, the evidence indicates that the engineer, unlike the effectively gives up his pension and does not, in many cases, have little or no hope of catching up his professional contemporaries.

Thus it is hardly surprising that engineers are increasingly turning to trade unions for the only hope of obtaining reasonable reward for what is fundamentally to the health of the economy and rises with it responsibility for major capital expenditure running into millions of pounds for a single project. And, especially since, unlike other professional bodies such as the BMA and, for that matter, the Law Society, the engineering institutions, who at first sight seem to be the logical bodies to take on this role, have refused to take any responsibility for their members' interests in the field.

ANDREW BOND, Assistant Editor, *Process Engineering*, Kogan-Grampian (Publishers) Limited, 20 Calverley Road, London SE18 6QH.

### The far from extinct guinea

From Mr O. Davis

Sir, Will someone please explain and justify the continuing use of the guinea despite the fact that it does not exist as a unit of currency. After reading your columns on Friday it is apparent that the guinea is not only alive but also flourishing, for you reported that the winner of the 1000 Guineas has been sold for 95,000 guineas.

I was about to comment that the guinea should be declared as extinct as a dinosaur, but with the current possibility of pleistosaurs surviving (is flourishing?) in Loch Ness, I should seek a simile. I should seek a simile. Yours faithfully, OWEN DAVIS, 111 Marshall Road, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent, December 5.

## The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators

"The Institute in a stormy economy"

The Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators was held on 10 December, 1975, in the City of London.

The following is a synopsis of the report by the President, Mr David Marwood, M.A., F.C.I.S.

The statement of policy that resulted from the talks held last month at Chequers was welcome, he said, but action had to be taken to support and fulfil the new Government's public sector strategy.

The welcome first effect of the new approach had, however, been blunted by the contents of the Queen's Speech, a speech of forecast further nationalisation. Industry, he added, did not want over-government but real co-operation as in other industries overseas. British industry could regenerate itself, he said, only the government had the power to create the right climate.

It was to be hoped, he continued, that as the legislative proposals of the Government unfolded, greater efforts would be made to secure the co-operation of all sectors of the British community. Balance of ownership in the economy had earlier been a contentious subject and the Institute's conference held earlier the year had been an important contribution to the public debate on the function of the private sector. The work being undertaken by the Institute's Law and Technical Services Committee aimed at evolving a new approach to the philosophy of Company Law in Great Britain. In considering proposals, based on the made in the Jenkins Report that he expected to appear in a Bill on Company Law in the current Parliamentary session, he reiterated the Institute's call for an Advisory Committee to assist the Government in dealing with matters concerning disclosure. The recent EEC Green Paper on the draft fifth directive was welcomed by Mr Marwood as a step towards the more flexible consultative process of the U.K.

The new education scheme would assist the Institute contributing its full quota of efficient and incorrupt secretaries to commerce, industry and public life in Britain and the English speaking world. He added that the stormy economy had made difficult financial decisions in the year past, but overcame support by the Membership had meant that the Institute had been able to weather the difficulties.

The report concluded with Mr Marwood looking forward to the appointment in the year ahead of a new Secretary of the Institute, the Institute's first Secretary, who would be replacing Mr John Phillips. The Council, he said, had been hard to find an appropriate successor in this most important office.

The report and accounts were received.

## THE GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED

### INTERIM REPORT

1. The unaudited results for the six months ended 30th September, 1975 are:

	6 months to 30th September 1975	6 months to 30th September 1974	12 months to 31st March 1975
Sales (to Customers outside Group) .....	£3,000	£2,000	£4,000
Profit .....	791,000	605,000	1,406,837
Taxation .....	91,100	71,000	173,939
Profit after Taxation .....	47,100	34,900	87,874
Minority Interests .....	44,000	34,100	86,285
Attributable to the Ordinary Shareholders ..	1,000	900	2,593
Profit after Taxation .....	43,000	33,200	83,742

Earnings per share (assuming full conversion of Convertible Loan Stock) .....

Interim Dividend—per share .....

2. The profits include:

	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Profits of Associated Companies .....	10,500 Cr.	7,100 Cr.	27,439 Cr.
Interest receivable from loans and deposits ..	7,700 Cr.	13,100 Cr.	20,554 Cr.
Interest payable on Loan Capital .....	4,500 Cr.	5,200 Cr.	9,222 Cr.
	13,700 Cr.	14,700 Cr.	32,791 Cr.

3. The directors have declared an interim dividend on the Ordinary shares of 1.65p per share payable on 31st March, 1976 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 20th February, 1976.

Under existing legislation, the total dividend permitted in respect of the current year ending 31st March, 1976 is 3.269p. The directors regret that statutory limitation prevents the investors of risk capital receiving reasonable recompense in relation to the profitability of the Company. The maximum dividend permitted for the year will represent a gross return of 4.8 per cent on the net book value of the tangible assets as at 30th September, 1975. In the three years from 30th September, 1972:

(a) GEC dividends, as restricted, have increased by 27.5 per cent;

(b) the cost of living has increased by 82 per cent; and

(c) wages in the Company have increased by 76 per cent.

4. Bank Balances and Deposits, less Bank Overdrafts, amounted to £135 million at 30th September, 1975 (1974, £147 million).

	Turnover*	Contribution to Earnings
	6 months to 30th September 1975	6 months to 30th September 1974
Engineering .....	1975	1974
Industrial .....	109	74
Electronics .....	110	83
Telecommunications and Automation .....	232	178
Components and Cables .....	89	82
Consumer Products .....	91	66
Overseas .....	220	169
	851	662
	100	100

\*Including Inter-Group Sales

6. The slackening in demand has been very marked in some products but, in total, order books at 30th September, 1975 were higher than year before. Export orders in the six months amounted to £280 million against £210 million in the same period in the previous year. Despite the economic difficulties at home and abroad and severely competitive conditions, the Company secured sufficient orders to maintain its total workforce at the same level as at 30th September, 1974.

ONE STANHOPE GATE, LONDON, W.1

The following companies managed by Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management Limited, have recently published their Directors' Reports and Accounts:—

### DRAYTON CONSOLIDATED TRUST LIMITED

Net assets at 30th September 1975 £60,321,278

### BRITISH INDUSTRIES AND GENERAL INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

Net assets at 30th September 1975 £5,849,539

Copies of the Directors' Reports and Accounts may be obtained from the above Companies at 117 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1AL.

## Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management Limited

Managers of Investment Trust Companies, Unit Trusts, Pension Funds, Charities and other institutional portfolios



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Yield considerations at GEC

Such is made in General Electric Company's interim report for the third quarter of 1975. The company's dividend has risen by only 27.1 per cent while the company's share price has risen by 76 per cent and 62 per cent respectively. This may be seen simply as a GEC publicly joining the rest of the world in a general move to the right, but it is also a sign of the company's own share price rising at the moment. At 140p the shares are probably selling at no more than eight times earnings, while the prospective yield is well below average at 6 per cent.

Perhaps with this in mind the stock market appeared unimpressed by yesterday's results — a profits gain so far this year of some 28 per cent on a 30.7 per cent rise in sales. So GEC continued to achieve substantial growth in difficult trading conditions, and while it is showing a "very marked" slackening in demand for some products — such as components, certain white durables and, of course, colour televisions — overall picture, balanced by good business at the heavier end of the business, still looks relatively good. Order books are higher than they were a year ago and the group is maintaining a competitive position overseas where some markets are turned up well recently. Meanwhile, the balance sheet is apparently healthy as ever, with the net cash position at the end of September was £135m but is on an improving trend.

GEC looks quite capable of absorbing a difficult six months or so in its consumer markets without any upset in its profits trend. But on income grounds alone the shares cannot be considered attractive.

Interim: 1975 (1974)  
Capitalization £56m  
Sales £791m (£695m)  
Pre-tax profits £91.1m (£71m)  
Dividend gross 2.54p (2.24p)

### Openc surplus

### Finding new homes

It cannot be assumed that the problem of recycling oil surplus is now behind us. Mr Hesley remarked in a speech yesterday, noting at the same time that the future level of those surpluses would be lower than was expected a year or so ago. How much lower is only now becoming fully apparent. Latest Bank of England figures, covering the third quarter of his year, make it simply clear that earlier doubts about how successfully the Bank system could cope with the intermediate process have been well wide of the mark.

The truth is that the oil exporters have shown less and less inclination to put their surplus funds on deposit with banks abroad, whether in London or elsewhere. In the first quarter, their non-sterling deposits rose by some \$3,800m; in the second quarter that figure was \$1,800m; and in the latest quarter it was down to a mere \$100m.

Admittedly the overall surplus in the third quarter of 7,100m was lower than the 9,500m and the 8,800m of the preceding quarters, but that does not explain the growing reluctance for leaving funds on deposit. Oddly, sterling deposits of some \$300m were bigger than the non-sterling deposits, though this was more than offset by third quarter disposals of United Kingdom Treasury bills totalling \$600m.

Increasingly the surplus countries are preferring other homes for their funds than the banks. Thus of \$7,100m available in the latest quarter, the largest amount, \$3,800m, was placed in the balance sheet. Now that the fix has gone out of



Sir Arnold Weinstock, managing director of General Electric Company: order books are higher than a year ago.

outside of both the United States and Britain, and a further \$1,400m went to international organizations. For the rest, the amounts going into the United States are rising quarterly figures for this year are \$600m, \$1,300m and, most recently, \$2,300m, with a significantly large \$1,700m going into government securities in this latest period. Even including the Eurodollar market, the flow of funds into the United Kingdom has been falling fast—from \$2,500m in the first quarter to \$200m in the second, while in the third there were net withdrawals of \$400m.

### Giltspur First-half setback

The benefits of consolidation appear a period of rapid expansion are taking longer to work through at Giltspur than was indicated at the time of last June's annual statement. Even so, the group is probably on safe enough ground in forecasting full year profits above those of 1974, given that this year's second half will compare with the sharp second-half downturn last year.

But there is still a long way to go before Giltspur regains the level of profitability before the recessionary gales blew it off course two years ago.

Turnover in volume increases and with inflation and market pressures bearing heavily on margins, as well as the extra burden of financing costs, pre-tax profits have plunged by a quarter to £1.06m.

Once again engineering has been the worst performer but, now that the mechanical services side has been closed down, it has at least edged into the black. Despite the 86 per cent jump in turnover on the exhibitions side, stemming mainly from acquisitions in the United States, profits have only risen from £237,000 to £313,000.

However, bearing in mind the depressed state of the commercial vehicle market in the United Kingdom, motor distribution has held up reasonably well. And the freight division, thanks mainly to the specialist packing companies, continues to forge ahead with profits up from £588,000 to £675,000.

Expansion in the United States and Germany has added £150,000 to interest costs at £492,000, but though loans and overdrafts have increased £1.7m to £11.7m, this is no undue burden on the balance sheet. Now that the fix has gone out of

profits, the market is taking no chances with a yield of a shade under 10 per cent on the forecast dividend and a prospective p/e ratio of around 6 at 37p.

Interim: 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £6.7m  
Sales £25.4m (£21.5m)  
Pre-tax profits £1.06m (£1.31m)  
Dividend gross 1.38p (1.19p)

### Venesta

### Awaiting a reconstruction

In front of publication of the Venesta accounts in a few days' time it looks as though the French losses of £8m will just about be covered by shareholders' funds, reducing the capital base from £16m in the last accounts to just £2m. Meanwhile, Venesta is a possible, though not yet a certain, candidate for the rescue attempt by the Standard Industrial Trust, which appears to be coordinating the effort.

Reading between the lines of the shareholders' circular, the French losses, which accounted for £4.7m of total group borrowings in 1974 are not being quite as much as the suggestion of a reconstruction as their United Kingdom counterparts.

Once again the whole affair demonstrates just how the interlocking corporate structures so favoured by Mr Rowland and others of his financial generation are an uncanny knack of going awry. Not that moves for a reconstruction in this case were totally unexpected given that Williams Hudson wrote off the whole of its investment in Venesta a few months ago. But at the £2.4m raised from the sale of Ketner Venesta to Montague Meyer earlier this year considerably reduced Williams Hudson's commitment to the group, while the rest of the loan is thought, pre a reconstruction, to be secured on good United Kingdom assets.

### NSS Newsagents Expansion continues

Given its concentration on traditional lines such as papers, cigarettes and confectionery, NSS Newsagents' expansion has left itself well insulated against any sharp consumer downturn. While subject to trading down, it is not open to the fluctuations in the "discretionary" lines such as records, books and fancy goods.

Full year profits, then, were ahead by some 38 per cent, with the second half going strongly — up 48 per cent — and the group continuing its expansionary policies. During the year the number of stores increased by 37 to 316, mainly through the acquisition of already established shops which produced immediate profits.

The current climate favours further acquisitions by NSS and it is actively seeking out small chains. But while the mid-year £843,000 rights issue proceeds have already been eaten into, borrowings remain low.

The shares ended 3p up at 58p yesterday to set a new high for the year and, despite a yield of 4.58 per cent and an earnings multiple of nearly 10, the shares seem to have some mileage left on the back of cheap expansion.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £9.8m  
Sales £29.2m (£20.2m)  
Pre-tax profits £1.94m (£1.41m)  
Earnings per share 5.85p (4.29p)  
Dividend gross 2.66p (2.36p)  
Adjusted for increased share capital

The Wealth Tax Select Committee has not unexpectedly disagreed and divided itself up along strict party lines so as to produce no less than five draft reports. It has been unable to reach any consensus of opinion for three particular reasons.

In the first place, the draft originally put before the committee by its chairman, Mr Douglas Jay, failed to ensure (so it is recorded) that the wealth tax would be substitutive not additive.

In the second place, that original draft failed to protect productive assets.

In the third place, it allegedly failed to recognize the dangers of introducing such a tax in a time of high inflation and economic crisis.

As a result of this conflict of opinion we are privileged (if that be the word) to read what you might call the received versions of the wealth tax, with one extreme version thrown in for good measure, and to keep you from falling asleep.

The Labour Party version reads like this: Wealth tax will raise a modest revenue and promote horizontal equity (what ever that may mean). So let's have one. After all, income tax rates may be reduced. . . .

The Liberal Party version is more enthusiastic. Liberals believe passionately in wealth taxes (for reasons which fail to emerge) and want a heavy tax, starting at £30,000 with abolition of the investment income surcharge and a reduction of income and capital marginal rates to 50 per cent.

### Persuasive argument against tax

The Conservative Party comes down strongly and persuasively against the introduction of any wealth tax at the present time, and is to be congratulated on having the courage to express its convictions, and on having read and absorbed the views of this newspaper.

Mr Maurice Macmillan and his colleagues see no justification for the introduction of a wealth tax at a time of rapid inflation and at the risk of further undermining the confidence of the private sector. They plump for a thoroughgoing review of the United Kingdom tax system, and a proportionate rate of wealth tax, not a progressive one. More surprisingly, the Conservatives recommend a low threshold of, say, £30,000.

Taking the three versions together, there is a decent measure of agreement on one or two topics: namely, the need for productive wealth, business assets and agriculture.

The Labour version offers a novel and exciting formula for relief. In so far as business assets amount to more than one half of total taxable assets, liability should proportionately be reduced. Owner-occupiers of agricultural land should be offered a concessionary valuation basis of their land, comparable to that adopted for capital transfer tax, but with a statutory multiplier of profits smaller than the figure of 20 currently in force for CTT.

Forestry assets should be exempted. Recognition should be accorded to the impossible position in which owners of historic houses may find themselves placed. Their wealth tax bills should be deferred until death, gift or sale, although

Oliver Stanley

## A confusion of views on a wealth tax



Douglas Jay: unable to reconcile differences.

there is some difference of opinion as to how much on what basis is to be payable when.

Not only should there be some deferral for historic assets themselves, but support funds should be permitted (Labour) or "encouraged" (Conservative) and administered by, possibly, the Inland Revenue (hardly!) as advised by a heritage commission.

Of course, it is the Labour version of the tax which justifies most careful study now. The wealth of minor children will be aggregated with that of their parents. Household goods including motor cars will be exempt to individual values of £1,000. The investment income surcharge will be set off; a mildly progressive rate scale is preferred; husbands and wives are dealt with on a joint system, under which wealth is aggregated, and tax charged at twice the amount payable on half the aggregate. In other words, equalization is to be permitted.

Trusts are to be duly hammered, and self-assessment is to be the order of the day.

What emerges from all this detail? What is the collective wisdom of this distinguished committee on this controversial new tax? Is it possible to draw any conclusions at all, or is all this simply a continuation of the party political debate. One might cautiously advance towards two separate conclusions.

### Damage of wild and dangerous animal

First, most of the committee all the serious bugs in its ranks of whatever political persuasion — have recognized that a wealth tax could be a wild and dangerous animal, and that to release it on an unthinking could do a great deal of damage. All members of the committee appear to have listened to the persuasive and detailed evidence put before them during the past year, and have applied themselves assiduously to their homework. So far as all that is concerned, and if we go on discussing a wealth tax for another year or so, then that will improve the moderate Labour Party's position vis-à-vis its extreme left, which is a matter of undoubted major concern at present.

Second, the report shows a few recognitions that income tax in this country are too high. At one stage (paragraph 11) the Labour version recommends reduction of income

## What's good enough for Ford...

It has been suggested that the Government is running into difficulties over its declared intention to borrow money from the International Monetary Fund because of its also declared intention to impose temporary and selective import controls. Unfortunately, it is not so, though there need be no mistaking the hostility which import restrictions beyond a token political gesture would provoke in the United States, West Germany and Britain's other principal trading partners.

The Government does not actually mean money from the IMF at present. It only announced an intention to draw on the new oil facility because the fund said that, if it did not call in the money before the end of the year, it would forfeit its rights to a drawing on the 1975 kitty.

It only announced its intention to draw on the oil facility because the IMF, which is the first of the United Kingdom's general credit facilities with the IMF because it seemed tidier to do this at the same time as announcing the intended drawing on the oil facility.

If and when the Treasury does decide to seek to draw on these facilities — on the grounds that they are rather more available than other facilities for smoothing the downward float of the pound — they will be available in accordance with understandings already reached.

The intention to draw on these facilities was announced, nor would it have been, until nominally informal negotiations with the managing director of the IMF, Dr Johannes Witteveen, had already established that he would recommend approval of the drawings to the fund's board on the basis of the British Government's policy intentions as put to him.

The proposed drawings do not anyway fall into the category of which, even in theory, policy conditions attach. There are no policy conditions attachable to drawings on the oil facility, though the general rules of the facility require that import restrictions may not be imposed by a drawing country without consultations.

A number of such countries have drawn and after consultations imposed import restrictions.

Policy conditions are only attachable, in theory, to drawings on the IMF's general fund which, even in theory, are subject to a country's second, third or fourth credit tranches. Such drawings are not proposed or envisaged by the Government. Even if they were, the formalities of policy conditions do not apply to drawings to a country of the United Kingdom's standing — second only to the United States in terms of membership subscriptions.

The myth that such conditions were imposed in the middle and late sixties is wholly unhistorical, though it was encouraged at the time by Chancellor who liked to pretend force majeure for unpalatable policies by their critics who liked to complain of another "bankers' ramp" and by journalists who like a good tale. The fact that the myth now exercises some sway even over Treasury officials today does not challenge the political

reality that no international arrangements can ever dictate in practice to the determined government of a major democracy.

Even if it were otherwise, it would be very doubtful whether the IMF could dictate a veto on policies which are available under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The GATT allows import controls (though not levies) provided that the GATT in Geneva is subsequently informed of the action taken.

Britain's Treaty of Accession to the EEC also requires collective scrutiny; but it is hardly likely that the Government would be deterred from policies which satisfy world-level trade and monetary rules because of any merely regional convention, though the proper etiquette would, of course, be observed.

Even if it were possible under any of these rules and conventions to veto import controls in general, that would not apply the "temporary and selective" measures currently envisaged. Provided that these fall within the terms of President Ford's acquiescence at the Rambouillet economic summit in measures to combat rare emergencies in acute and particular circumstances there will be no concerted international resistance to British measures.

The reality of the present sharp private exchanges between Britain and other countries, chiefly the United States and West Germany, over the shape of Britain's forthcoming

Peter Jay  
Economics Editor

restrictions, relates to the interpretation of this understanding at Rambouillet.

Mr Wilson gave no specific undertakings to his fellow heads of government, though he cited examples of the kinds of industries which might be affected because the Cabinet had not yet then decided.

If the restrictions are confined to television tubes and a circumscribed list of textile and footwear imports for a year or less, then there will not be much real fuss.

If they are extended to cars, then the risk of serious repercussions, including retaliation, and a collapse of the OECD free trade pledge (which was reaffirmed at Rambouillet), would be real. For this reason the import restrictions decision has become heavily embroiled with ministers' current plans for a pre-Christmas package of anti-unemployment measures.

It seems likely at present that the main thrust of employment protection in the car industry will take the form of substantial direct subsidies to Chrysler and hire purchase relaxation rather than import restrictions.

It hardly needs saying that in Britain's present circumstances no sane government would even be considering such policies either individually or in combination. But even the doing of the damned and the damned have to be reported.

## Business Diary: Whither Hudson? • California here I come

Havelock Hudson, who was selected chairman of Lloyd's yesterday, is going to have to continue combining his role of marine underwriter with that of roving ambassador for the insurance market during his second term of office.

Recently returned from Montreal and Toronto, Hudson will soon be off again on another goodwill tour, possibly to the United States.

There, as in Canada, he would be faced with the delicate diplomatic task of explaining to a local army of Lloyd's brokers just why the London insurance market is not anxious to take all the new business it can get at the moment. The fact is that Lloyd's has become almost too successful in attracting a higher rate of North American business.

Sharp rises in what Americans are prepared to pay for motor and non-motor types of insurance (because many of the domestic companies are unwilling to renew business) coupled with natural inflation in premium rates, and the war of delatation of the pound hoists their value in sterling terms, is producing very real capacity problems for Lloyd's.

Higher premiums have to be met by bigger funds held to meet risks if Lloyd's is to avoid reducing its almost legendary security. Even with a 12.5 per cent increase in membership for 1976 there are limits to the extent to which Lloyd's can increase members' deposits to match new business.

Alec Higgins and Peter Fraden-Pearson were elected deputy chairmen for 1976 yesterday. Higgins is her apparent choice for the chairmanship in the sense that he is the "senior" deputy chairman, although it

does not invariably follow that the holder of this office automatically becomes chairman.

### Merry-go-round

The banking merry-go-round in the United States continues to spin. The latest surprising development is the move by Chauncey Schmidt, from being president and holding company vice-chairman of the First National Bank of Chicago, the eighth largest bank in the country, to the post of chairman and holding company chief executive officer of the Bank of California, the thirty-seventh largest bank.

The explanation for the move is not hard to find: Schmidt, the former air force officer, recently lost the battle to become chairman of First Chicago, the job of chairman of First Chicago, Bank of California, meanwhile, has been looking around desperately for a man of Schmidt's talents.

Abbott's rise at First Chicago, by the way, prompted the departure from the bank earlier this year of the executive vice-president, Robert Wilmoth, who moved to California to become president of Crocker Bank, the twelfth largest in America, where he joined another new man, Tom Wilcox, who was appointed chairman and who had lost the battle for top post at First National City Bank of New York to Walter Wriston.

On the surface it may well appear that Schmidt, 44, has done rather badly compared to Abbott, 46, and Wilmoth, 46. However, Bank of California seems to have its worries, just as Crocker had when Wilmoth moved to California. The chief

lenges before Schmidt are great, but so may be his rewards should he succeed.

Incidentally, Schmidt, Abbott and Wilmoth, all rose to their new present eminence after stints in banking in London.

### Champagne toast

The Times Veve Clicquot Champagne Award for "A Woman in a Man's World" this year honours a woman who has made her way in industry. She is Zofia Sas, who came to Britain from Poland during the war with her husband Tadeusz and with him built up the private Sas pharmaceuticals, chemicals and electronics group.

Not only Mrs Sas but her four runners-up are either individual entrepreneurs or members of family companies. The runners-up were Jean Ratcliff, managing director of Ratcliff Tailfitts, Joan Nathan, managing director of J. N. Electronic Supplies, Madge King, managing director of Casper, Neill, Plastics and Norah Wall, chairman and managing director of Flint processors, the Walley Group.

Mrs Sas's prizes include a trip for two to Rheims for the christening of a vine to be named after her.

Among the panel who picked her were Hugh Stephenson, editor of The Times Business News, and last year's winner, Alice Coleman. Miss Coleman, the second winner of the competition, is Reader in Geography at King's College, London, and director of an impressive land utilization survey of Britain.

Mrs Sas was presented with a silver replica of the original Madame Clicquot's tazza de vin



Woman in a man's world: Zofia Sas (left), Countess Laticia de Veguë and Count Alain de Veguë at yesterday's reception.

at The Times offices in London last night by Count Alain de Veguë, Countess Laticia de Veguë, and with a bouquet by the Countess Laticia de Veguë.

### Barker's bite

Barry Barker, who was director of the Shipbuilding Industry Board until it ended its statutory life in 1972 and is at present secretary of Pye Holdings and Pye of Cambridge, the Philips of Holland subsidiaries, is to be chief executive and secretary of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators. Aged 46, he takes over from John Phillips next August.

He looks like spending quite a bit of his time stamping the EEC corridors in Brussels. He'll

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## ICI bear squeeze, but business dismal

With little interest in buying for the Christmas account, which starts tomorrow, the London stock market had a quiet session yesterday with most interest centring on companies with new or recent trading statements.

Early in the day, though, a "bear squeeze" on ICI, the most active stock of the day, led the market up and by 11 pm the FT Index had gained a point. But this firmness soon disappeared through lack of support and by 3 pm the index was 0.9 below its overnight level.

There was a feeling that a late "turning the corner" was in the air.

Supporters of Goldie Foulds, the food maker, expect pleasing news with the interim bulletin now due. If so, the shares at 26p may attract interest with their high yield on prospective price-earnings ratio and assets of nearly 50p a share.

statement from the CBI coupled with some clarification on both the Chrysler and import-control positions might bring a late advance.

But all were discounted and at the closing calculation the index was off 1.6, at 362.5, its "low" of the day. With one day's trading left, the change over the account is a gain of 5.6.

Gilt-edged prices had a generally firm undertone, but trading was not particularly active. Low-coupon "shorts" closed with gains of a point, but elsewhere in this sector the advance was limited to be-

tween a 1/16 and an 1/2 point. The long-dated stocks experienced steady, two-way trading, closing without net change in most areas, with the exception of the shorter-dated "mediums", which advanced by 1/16 point.

The "blue chips" which held on to early gains were ICI, up 4p to 315p, Glaxo, 5p better to 36p, and Bank "A", where the improvement was 2p to 155p.

British American Tobacco managed to hold on to its overnight 320p, but Fisons proved to be a soft spot and shed 5p to 370p.

Electrical and engineering shares again provided many of the features that were. Though interim profits were more or less in line with market expectations, GEC finished a penny off at 140p after rousing 137p at one stage.

Suggestions that now is the time to take profits after the recent run up hit EMI where the shares lost 3p to 235p, but International Computers continued to reflect the strength of Tuesday's results with a 5p gain to 90p and Racal added another penny to 218p.

The best of engineering was Hawker Siddlevy, now moving more strongly into the diesel engine market, with a gain of 8p to 320p, but Staveley managed to firm another 3p to 131p, still reflecting results, and Spear & Jackson moved up 2p to 103p in sympathy.

British Leyland managed to end unchanged at 30p but the initial response to the investment freeze and labour problems was a dip to 27p. Small but persistent selling hit Steel

Brothers and at one point the shares had shed 11p to 217p. They closed a penny firmer.

A statement from Panocean, jointly owned by P & O and Ocean, came too late to help the shares of Tate & Lyle which slumped no less than 11p to 236p on the lack of a bid for its Anco parcel-tanker subsidiary. Panocean said talks were

aimed at closer trading links and that talk of a full merger was "premature".

The banks had a mixed day, though both National Westminster 238p and Midland 285p ended the day ahead, by 3p and 2p respectively. Barclays lost 3p to 295p and Lloyds 3p to 235p. Slater Walker held on to 22p and some speculative demand for UDT added 2p to 17p.

Dealers said they had had a "few" orders for the last named. Property shares, which are going very much their own way at present, had a generally firm day.

Ahead of figures next week, MEPC added 3p to 66p, while other good spots were provided by Land Securities, 4p better at 161p, and Great Portland Estates, also 4p to the good, at 216p. Venesta were suspended at 23p at the request of the company.

Golds moved steadily higher with the metal price with President Steyn adding 50p to £10.50p, St Helena 50p to £20 and Hartbeestfontein also 50p to £16.25. Australian mines were an irregular market.

Press comment on next week's interim from HP Bulmer was enough to add 3p to 87p, while companies reporting yesterday included NSS Newsagents, up 3p to 58p, English Card Clothing, unchanged at 40p, and Travis & Arnold, also unmoved at 100p. Companies to lose ground were Arlington Motor, 1p to 79p, Giltspur, 2p to 37p, British Tar Products, 21p to 32p, and R. & J. Pullman, 2p to 68p, after a "rights".

But R. W. Toothill managed a rise of 4p to 72p. Proof that Furness Withy is still attractive

## Latest dividends

Company	Ord	Year	Pay	Year	Prev
(and par value)	div	ago	date	total	year
Arlington Motor (25p) Int	1.4	1.4	2/2	—	6.49
E. Austin (25p) Int	1.04	0.97	—	—	2.9
Esseridge Brick (25p) Fin	1.9	1.78	—	1.9	1.78
British Tar (10p) Int	0.15	0.14	—	—	1.23
W. Crowther (10p) Int	1.49	1.4	12/2	—	3.71
Deftend Stamping (50p) Int	3.0	2.8	2/3	—	7.6
English Card (25p) Int	0.8	0.8	30/1	—	2.19
Fred W. Evans (10p) Fin	0.62	0.6	25/3	1.2	1.18
GEC (25p) Int	1.63	1.5	31/3	—	3.83
Giltspur (10p) Int	0.9	0.8	—	—	2.2
New Court (25p) Fin	1.5	1.4	—	2.4	2.4
R. & J. Pullman (5p) Int	1.9	1.9	15/1	1.9	1.9
Sangers Group (25p) Int	1.6	1.5	4/2	—	4.88
Stonehill (25p) Int	3.0	1.5	7/6	8*	5.33*
Travis & Arnold (25p) Int	0.59	0.52	28/1	—	2.43
W. Wassall (5p) Int	0.5	0.5	—	—	1.1
John Williams (25p) Fin	1.11	1.23	—	1.78	1.67

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Earnings are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. \* Forecast.

\*\* Adjusted for scrip.

## Sangers now well placed to trounce old forecast

By Terry Byland

Interim results from Sangers Group suggest that the forecast with the rights issue of year-end profits of more than £1.3m was extremely prudent. The pre-tax total for the six months to August 31 rose by 90 per cent to £855,000, and the board thinks that the growth rate will be maintained in the second half.

The first half performance—at the trading level profits were 65 per cent higher at £855,000—reflects a substantial reorganization and moves to cut out unprofitable business. Sales rose by only 18 per cent to £32m. Earnings a share went up from 2.95p to 5.90p. An interim dividend of 2.46p a share is proposed. The board has already promised to maintain the annual total at £801.4p on the capital increased by the £1m rights issue in August.

The shares rose by a further 4p to 87p yesterday, partly on the comment by Mr H. Nicholson, chairman, that "in the longer term" profits will be enhanced by developments which are under consideration.

The rights issue cash was intended to finance investment in businesses outside the Sangers' traditional wholesale pharmaceuticals. The first steps are disclosed in the interim report, in the announcement that a new agency company will start trading in Southern Ireland in January.

## Panocean clarifies Tate &amp; Lyle question

Speculation that a bid might be in the offing for Tate & Lyle's Anco Tanker Service may be somewhat cooled by a statement last night from Panocean Shipping and Terminals, which is jointly owned by P & O and Ocean Transport.

Mr John Milby, Panocean's managing director, revealed that the company was holding talks on possible closer links with Anco, but it would be "premature" to speculate about the possibilities of a full merger. He was having continuous talks with a view to extending our present areas of operation and we are now considering the possibilities of further rationalization", he added.

Tuesday's denial of a bid, accompanied by a suggestion of tanker troubles, brought the Tate & Lyle shares down 11p to 236p yesterday. Tate & Lyle itself later confirmed that talks were taking place with Panocean with a view to maintaining the earnings potential of their respective "parcel" tanker operations. Panocean operates 11 "parcel" tankers and Anco eight.

## Gartmore buying Morgan trusts

Gartmore Fund Managers has bought four unit trusts from Morgan Grenfell. The merchant banker has decided to abandon its seven-year-old venture into unit trusts to concentrate on corporate sector business.

The funds have been passed to Gartmore for an undisclosed sum and will bring the group's total of unit funds under management to around £12m. Three of the four Morgan funds are complementary to the Gartmore range with the Capital fund providing the only overlap.

## English Card aiming for only £1.6m

Having raised pre-tax profits from £1.43m to a record £2.86m last year, English Card Clothing (also in iron and steel wire) expects them to fall to around £1.57m this year. The shares duly dipped on the news. Pre-tax profits for the six months to September 27 fell from £1.35m to £787,000 and the second half is expected to be similar. Order books are shorter. Sales rose from £6m to £6.1m.

Shareholders are to get a dividend of 1.23p, against 1.07p even though attributable profits were only £252,000, against £435,000. An analysis shows that United Kingdom companies contributed only £55,000, against £58,000, only Euro-pan companies £60,000 against £95,000, and Indian companies £137,000, against £182,000. Earnings a share went down from 7.5p to 4.3p.

E & G on new course

The directors of Estates & General Investments have been thinking about the future following the rejection by shareholders of its proposal to merge with County & Suburban Holdings. Mr J. Lawrence, the chairman, says that as a first step, Lazards have been appointed as financial adviser, a review of the recent position has been started. There have also been some board changes.

Invitations to join the board have been accepted by Sir Geoffrey Kitchen, formerly chairman of Pearl Assurance, Mr Eric Lombard Knight, deputy chairman of Lombard North Central and founder of Lombard Banking, and Lord Wilson, of Radcliffe, a former chief executive of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Capitol Records in deal

Capitol Records Inc, an EMI unit, has signed a long-term deal with the recorded music companies of Warner Communications Inc. Under it, Capitol will make records and pre-recorded tapes for Warner Brothers' Elektra, Asylum and Atlantic labels.—A.P.D.J.

British Tar falters

The pre-tax profits of British Tar Products slipped 5 per cent to £547,000 in the six months to September 30. Turnover went down from £6.2m to £4.8m. The results reflect the board's pessimism at the year end. It then said that poor trading would mean first half results similar to last year's. But the interim dividend goes up from 0.22p to 0.23p, even

Canada Permanent

Canada Permanent Trust, one of that country's largest institutions, has acquired a 30 per cent stake with an option to buy a further 21 per cent. AFI International, the bank's arm of AFI Corporation SA, Luxembourg, as a result of two groups will integrate some of their financial activities and the bank will be called Canada Permanent AFI. Its offices will be in Finsbury Square at Grosvenor Street, London.

Business appointments

## Deputy group managing director for J Lyons

Mr L. Badham, assistant group managing director of J. Lyons, has been appointed deputy group managing director. Mr J. E. Silverman, assistant group managing director, additionally becomes chairman, United Kingdom operations. Mr P. Merry, a director, becomes deputy chairman, United Kingdom operations.

Mr Robert McNellie, joint chairman of Arthur Guinness Son & Co., has been elected chairman of the Brewers' Society. He succeeds Mr H. S. Swallow, deputy chairman of Courage, who has been elected a vice-president of the society. Mr Edwin Thompson, chairman and managing director of the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, has been elected vice chairman.

Mr H. T. Hudson has been re-elected chairman of Lloyd's. Mr A. W. Higgins and Mr P. L. Foden-Pattinson have been elected deputy chairmen for the year beginning January 1.

Sir Ian Lewis has joined the board of W. A. Baxter Sons. Mr George W. Pusck, regional executive, Mobil Europe Inc, has been made chairman and chief executive of Mobil Oil with effect from January 1. He succeeds Mr John R. Kirchner who will return

though earnings a share—adjusted for a rights issue and an acquisition—were only 2.27p against 2.85p.

## Big strides by Stonehill

One of the best in the current crop of furniture and furnishing trade results has come from Stonehill, London-based manufacturers of the State room medium-class range and a merger with the chairman, the Mr Philip Steinberg. The shares, now of trustee status were firm on Tuesday, and put on a few more points yesterday to a new peak on news of a rebound in pre-tax profit from a sub-normal £381,000 to £307,000 in the 33 weeks to November 16, besides a bumper forecast of at least £1.2m for the year (£777,000 for 1974/5).

True the company has secured two price increases during 1975, but only on one of the current figures throughout. Much of the upsurge sprang from good productivity plus increased demand and capacity. Sale jumped from £3.8m to £6.4m and volume sales were some 4 per cent greater too. Moreover order books in real terms are about 2½ times bigger than a year ago.

## Dividend return at Brit. Cotton

A sharp rise in the share greatest news that British Cotton & Wool Dyeing Association hopes to return to dividends for the year to next March 31 after a year's lapse.

Having tumbled from a record pre-tax profit of £57,900 to a loss of £59,000 last year, the group has managed a recovery from £58,000 to £70,000 for the six months to September 30, though sales fell to £3.9m.

Mr G. Lowe, chairman, says that good money has been made recently in textile merchandising and processing, after a return of customer confidence. Next capacity at the timber and manufacturing subsidiaries has helped them to do better. These trends should continue.

## Pullman 1-for-2 rights

The board of R. & L. Pullman, the textile and clothing group, aims to raise about £14,000 by a one-for-two rights issue at 50p a share. This compares with the market price of 70p. The issue is underwritten by Capel-Cure Myers.

Pre-tax profits for the half year to September 30 were about the same at £304,000 or turnover up from £4m to £4.4m. The dividend rises from 2.23p to 2.3p gross. Orders are "encouraging", and profits for the full year should match last year's record £862,000. Earnings a share at meanwhile down from 4p to 3.8p.

## John Williams

A second-half fall from £487,000 to £334,000 left the pre-tax profits of steel stockholder John Williams of Cardiff down from a record £733,000 to £659,000 in the year to September 30. Even so, this is still the second-best ever result, and one that pleases Mr Harold Williams, the chairman. The directors duly declare a maximum dividend of 2.74p, against 2.48p.

## Travis &amp; Arnold rally

Travis & Arnold, a Northampton-based builders' merchant and timber importer, is recovering. Pre-tax profit for the first six months to August 23 soared 24 per cent to £1.6m. This follows last year's 30 per cent fall at mid-way and a total 32 per cent reverse at £2.63m for all of 1974-5.

During the past half-year sales rose from £16.4m to £17.1m, and a good increase is still being seen. The dividend rises from 0.78p gross to 0.86p.

# Today, Metal Box opens something new; a glass bottle plant in Nigeria.

Thursday, December 11th, sees the official opening of the glass bottle manufacturing plant of Metal Box Toyo Glass Company Nigeria Limited.

Established at a cost of over £10 million, in a joint venture between Metal Box, Toyo Glass Japan and Nigerian interests, the new plant is planned to meet Nigeria's requirements for glass bottles (currently a substantial item on the country's import bill), as well as providing employment for 500 people.

Already, the indications are that this international co-operative venture will be successful and further investment is being planned.

Once again, Metal Box is happy to be contributing its development and marketing skills to a growing overseas economy.



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**§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.**

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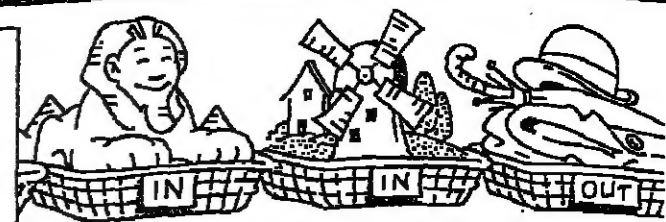








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## The workers' Community

One of the major achievements of the European Economic Community has been the establishment of a common market for labour as well as a free trade area. The Treaty of Rome (Article 48) says "The free movement of workers shall be ensured within the Community" and as yet no member of the community of nine has sought to break that rule.

Consequently since January 1, 1973, when Britain joined the EEC a United Kingdom national has had the right to look for work or take up a job previously obtained in any other member state without a work permit. There are certain restrictions, however. The job seeker has to comply with any national legislation or regulations regarding the employment of nationals of that state. The right of employment in a member country of the EEC does not extend to employment in the public service and pro tem does not apply to the Irish Republic where special conditions exist. Luxembourg has been granted a special protocol of the Treaty of Rome which allows curbs on migrant workers from other EEC countries if such immigration becomes excessive. At the moment the provisions of the protocol are not in force.

The right of the individual to seek employment elsewhere in the EEC is further protected. You are entitled to the same treatment as local workers in connection with pay, working conditions, access to property and housing, vocational training, social security and trade union rights. Your family and dependants have the right to join you in whichever country you choose to live and they enjoy the same rights.

At the time of accession to the EEC the British Government made a declaration

defining who can be classed as a United Kingdom national and consequently who has the right to freely seek work in the EEC. In short, if your passport is endorsed with the words "Holder has the right of abode in the United Kingdom" by the Passport Office you are free to work anywhere in the EEC, but it is always wise to check if there is any doubt.

With such freedom of access to such a large part of industrial Europe it might be expected that there would be considerable movement of workers between the various countries. In the early period of the Community's development the main flow was northwards from Italy's underdeveloped Mezzogiorno. In 1953 over 150,000 moved to other member states to take up jobs and the figure peaked in 1965 when just under 270,000 Italians sought their fortunes elsewhere in the EEC. The early enthusiasm to migrate has diminished, however. In 1969 about 75 per cent of the foreign workers in the EEC were from other member countries. Today the proportion of inter-community migrants is down to 25 per cent and there are now over 3,000,000 "true" foreigners working in the EEC, mostly southern Europeans and north Africans.

On Britain's accession to the Community it was feared in some circles that there could be an influx of Europeans to Britain. The fears were unfounded. The Registrar General's figures for mid-1973 to mid-1974 (the latest available) show that over 20,000 people emigrated from England and Wales to the rest of the EEC. In 1973 10,400 residence permits were granted by the British Government to nationals of other Community countries. The number of Britons emigrating to Common Market countries is higher than the number going to those traditional havens of exiles, Canada and South Africa.

The EEC shares top place with Australia for attracting immigrants from Britain in the professional and managerial grades, each attracting over 7,000 each in a year, according to the Registrar General. What the recent disaffection in the National Health Service will do to these figures for 1975 when they are announced is anybody's guess. It is unlikely that many doctors will have gone to the EEC, however, because of difficulties both with language and previous reluctance to recognise qualifications granted by other member states. Indeed the medical profession has been something of a test case in the EEC regarding the professional.

In 1974 the European Court of Justice gave a ruling on Article 52 of the Treaty of Rome which said that it was "directly applicable" and had the force of law in all member states. The effect of the ruling is that all national legislation setting up barriers against foreigners who wish to establish themselves professionally is not applicable to nationals from other EEC countries. A proposed directive on mutual recognition of professional qualifications and on minimum training standards was approved by the EEC Council in principle earlier this year. After the details have been agreed by the national professional bodies concerned the directives will be the force of law in the EEC. That will be in about a year's time and it is safe to assume that similar arrangements will be introduced for other professions in the next few years. It must be stressed that any member of the "professions" contemplating setting up a practice in the EEC should check with his regulatory body to see if any prohibitive regulations are still in force in the country of his choice.

Ron Ember

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